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TEXTILE BULLETIN

Vol. 57 January 1, 1940 No. 9

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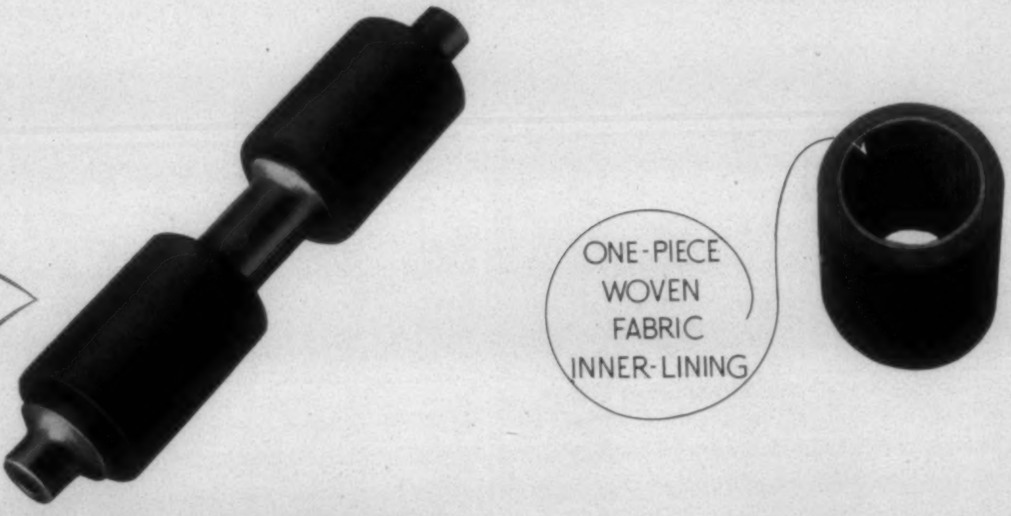

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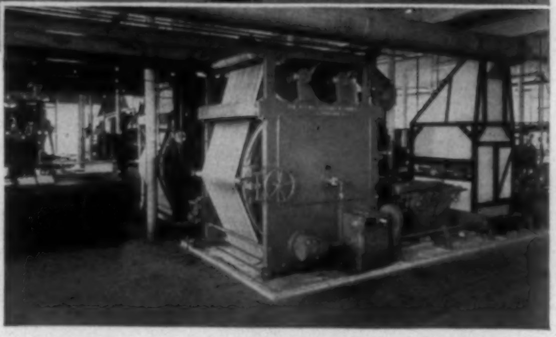

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TEXTILE BULLETIN

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Vol. 57 January 1, 1940 No. 9

# YEAR END TEXTILE REVIEW

By Scheur & Company

- A Summary of 1939's Textile Activities and a Glance At 1940.

THE outbreak of war in September found textile markets in better technical position than they had known for years. Spring, 1939, volume and profits were disappointing, but the industry had operated most conservatively throughout the first quarter and therefore was well fortified for this result. By May, mill margins had declined to levels which had not been seen since 1933. Then it became evident that the situation had been overdone, and a turning point was close at hand. Thereafter, gradual but steady improvement occurred, and by mid-year finished goods inventories were reduced to small dimensions. Business broadened during July and August at a significantly high rate of turnover.

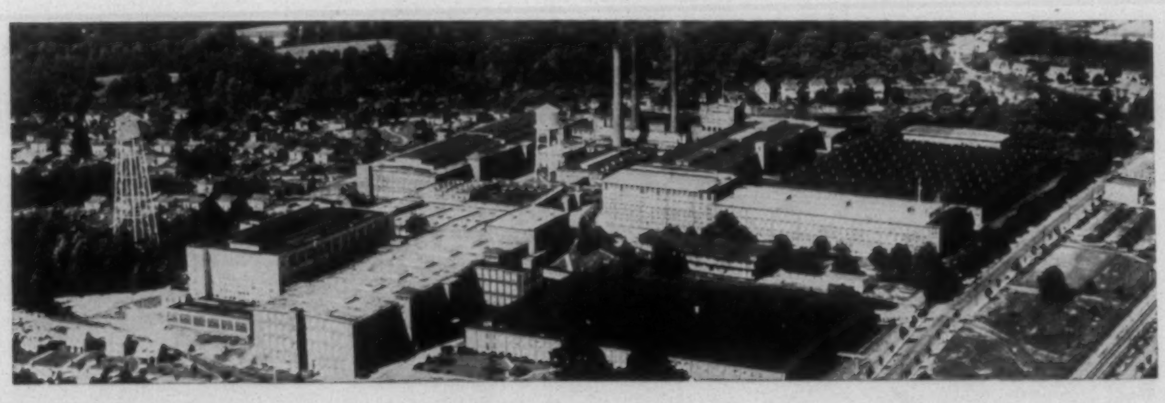
Hesitancy born of the impending war crisis was quickly transformed into aggression after war became an actuality. It is our belief that in September the industry established an all-time high for bookings in any one month, incident to which prices advanced 15 to 20%. Every type of textile was included in this buying stampede. Most orders placed called for completion of deliveries within the calendar year; however, purchases by industrial fabric users, who were active buyers, covered a more extended period.

Finished goods purchasers quickly adapted themselves to the changed tempo and liberally covered their requirements. Deliveries in some instances extended into the early months of 1940, but the larger part called for completion by December 31st. This unprecedented concentration of buying was followed in November by a sharp let-down in new business in both grey and finished goods markets. A gradual easing of grey prices accompanied this reduction in pace, which at this writing indicates a loss of 50%, and more in some instances, of the maximum advances.

### Cotton Textile Problems and Prospects

Following many months of discussion, the widely heralded cotton print cloth plan was adopted late in June, after cloth mills owning 95% of the productive capacity accepted its terms. Thereby a two-shift operation was to be effective for one year, and for an agreed period this schedule was to be curtailed 25%. During the same time, sales and shipments were to be restricted to new production only, that is, existing inventories were to be impounded for an indeterminate term. Vagueness surrounded many of the published details of the device. However, during the prolonged period devoted to its consideration, the costly self-corrective process, which unfailingly operates after production has risen excessively and prices have receded sharply, once again made itself felt. By the time announcement was made of the plan's adoption, it was clear that the situation was due for a reversal. The plan was soon lost sight of after the September unheaval, but the reason for its abandonment was not announced.

Despite this interlude of good fortune, the basic grey print cloth problem remains uncorrected. Many attempts have been made over a long period of years to stabilize production and merchandising, but in no instance that we can recall have these efforts been invoked until an emergency situation had arisen. The only hope for enduring



improvement in this domain resides in an organization which operates imaginatively and continuously in periods of high demand as well as in times of crises. Despite the many attempts which have been made, the cause is far from a hopeless one. It is to the interest of all handlers, converters, as well as finished goods buyers of print cloths to encourage sounder procedures in this field, yet they cannot well be criticised if they evidence skepticism. They must be shown in 1940—and they are willing to be.

Combed cotton constructions displayed exceptional price stability and offered outstanding values throughout the first eight months of the year. Thereafter, prices advanced with extreme rapidity. The strain upon the absorptive powers of distribution soon became as apparent in this division as in print cloths. The time span between purchase and delivery of goods sold in September was too short to allow for adjustment to the reduced tempo of demand, and the backing-up process ensued. In a word, too many goods were sold too quickly and for too concentrated a delivery. Time alone can and is correcting this situation. Extreme price concessions would contribute no help; indeed, they would aggravate the condition. Moreover, the elements of cost and potential demand do not justify any such course. Patience and confidence should prove themselves to be profitable investments to those who practice these virtues. If mills insist on booking additional business before buyers find it necessary to operate, they will only do so at an unwarranted sacrifice. On the other hand, if grey sellers wait, the same volume of buying is certain to appear and be booked advantageously. In putting this forth, we appreciate that the time of selling unfortunately is not always a matter of free choice.

### Rayon Record and Outlook

Rayon yarn producers during 1939 showed foresight and wisdom in their merchandising and pricing policies. Early in April they began to adjust production schedules to declining demand, and by so doing rendered a most valuable service to weavers and converters. By the middle of May, a renewal of confidence began to appear and by July a complete reversal in the statistical position of yarn had been effected. Thereafter, price uncertainty was entirely eliminated and the trade went forward confidently on the basis of list prices of yarn then current. An increase of two to three cents per pound was announced for both viscose and acetate process yarns in September. In October fine denier acetate yarn was advanced further. This was followed by similar increases in fine denier viscose yarns in December. A strike at the Celanese plant aggravated the already tight acetate yarn situation, and its effect upon cloth markets continued to be felt until the close of the year. The statistical position of rayon yarn at this writing is stronger than it has ever been; weavers are unable to obtain as much yarn as they desire, and the fear is expressed that this situation is likely to continue. We incline to the view that this tightness will be gradually reduced in the new year; while short peirods of scarcity may occur, due largely to the new outlets created by the war, we doubt that they will be long lived. The yarn industry is in better balance with demand than any other branch of textiles, but in total it is not underproduced.

Viscose staple fibre was in adequate supply throughout the year, though in the early months some slight difficulty in obtaining supplies was experienced. Despite an increase in production, the supply of acetate staple fibre was inadequate. A substantial expansion in fabrication, necessitating the blending of acetate fibre with other fibres, gave it a new importance. While spun rayon fabrics have become an important member of the textile family, they are not yet a mature member. Few year-round staples have been developed and, though some mass yardage constructions have found a place, they are not yet sufficiently seasoned to make possible an accurate estimate of their potentialities. Sportswear weaves absorb a large poundage, yet these, too, are in the development stage. Standardization has not yet been accomplished as is evidenced by the fact that most fabrics are purchasable on a contract basis only. All of which suggests that a fluctuating type of market is profitable. The steady flow of operations characteristic of the older textiles is not an early likelihood. Total annual absorption is not likely to be disappointing, but the movement of goods next year may well show irregularity similar to that of 1939. The Continent supplies a large amount of this country's requirements of staple; thus far total shipments have been fairly well maintained and the prospects for continuation are good, but this part of our needs is subject to the uncertainties of the war.

### Government and Business

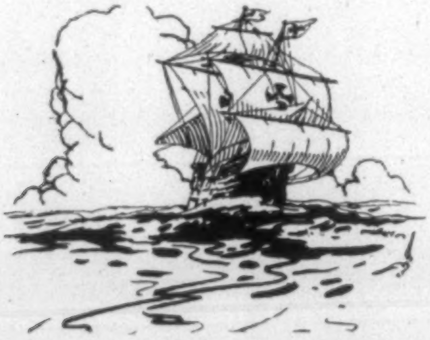
Congressional rejection of the program for self-liquidating projects, coupled with its refusal to vote additional funds for housing, occurred at a time when our economy was on the mend. Moreover, the action stimulated the confidence of industrialists. The enormous increase in defense preparations more than equals the total expenditure which was contemplated under the self-liquidating project bill. Whether or not one favors this expansion of our armaments, as a 1940 economic consideration it is on the plus side, though its influence will be strongest in the last six months.

By the time Congress passed the Neutrality Act of 1939 at the special session, it is fair to say that the majority of our people had come to believe in it. The coming into operation of the Wage and Hour Law was accompanied with no untoward results. While considerable opposititon was voiced in our industry to the Administrator's decision to accept the 32½c minimum recommended by the Textile Committee, for the time being the trade seems reconciled.

Though the Temporary National Economic Committee have pointed to a few instances of unwarranted price advances, in the main they have acquitted industry of excess. They will continue to function in the new year and, from all indications, desire to approach their task with a view of promoting industrial well-being. They show no inclination to conduct a punitive profiteering probe, and, in our view, business has nothing to fear from TNEC as long as it continues to pursue the moderate price policies which good sense has thus far dictated.

### Exports—Stabilizing Factors—Distribution

Cotton textile exports are expanding gradually and shipments of contraband are moving more freely. Great Britain and France are just about completing the organization of their buying offices in this country. The magnitude and quality of the personnel suggests preparation for extensive activity. While textiles are likely to be secondary items for a considerable period, large buying of heavy industry products and other more pressing war needs are certain to influence the general domestc demand. The movement of textiles and rayon yarn to nations at peace has expanded, yet it is distinctly impeded by considerations of finance and currency, and to an extent by price. We believe that this demand will become more insistent as and if the period of armed conflict is extended.



The industrial record of 1939 forms a tribute to corporate management and its ability to close its ranks when it realizes the necessity for so doing. In this matter, 1938, in our judgment, was the turning point; industrialists then became reconciled to the need for meeting conditions as they are and not as they would like them to be. Both volume and earnings increased progressively in every quarter of 1939, and but few industries failed to participate. Advancing prices played no part in this accomplishment; on the contrary they were practically stabilized in most lines until September. Thereafter, management exhibited significant restraint; though faced with great provocation and excited demand, it moderated the rise in statesmanlike fashion. Both the steel and aluminum industries have, with few minor exceptions, continued their fourth quarter prices for the first three months of 1940, while tire and automobile manufacturers have reduced theirs. Some reduction in pace is probable in the operations of heavy industries not unlike that which has been experienced in our markets. This need occasion no surprise or concern; it is a natural reaction after a sudden and concentrated movement and it should soon form the basis for renewed but less particular activity. Textiles are in the process of settling to a basis which establishes consistency with the general price level, thus insuring the holding of its normal share of consumer buying power.

### Much New Machinery Installed

Alert mill executives have for some time realized that our industry in all of its divisions is intensely competitive and, therefore, in order to survive, that the highest efficiency was necessary. New machinery installations in 1939, plus orders placed and still unfilled, are of record-breaking dimensions. Almost all of this equipment is for replacement and most of it is being acquired by mills who for the past five or ten years have been consistently practicing machinery renewal. In the past few years, startling progress has been made in nearly every type of mill machinery to a degree which suggests that production techniques have experienced revolutionary rather than evolutionary changes.

Production facilities throughout the world, and more especially in the United States, are vastly greater now than they were when war broke out in 1914. Then the factor of scarcity was extreme; commodity stocks were low—now they are larger than normal. Moreover, rationing and economizing have been undertaken promptly by belligerents, rather than years after the outbreak of war. Thus, supplies in countries at war will be conserved and the pinch of emergency shortages avoided. These circumstances do not encourage the belief that an inflationary spiral is a likely development here; indeed, the attitude of industry and government throughout the world suggests an abhorrence thereof. Should such tendencies appear in our country and not be promptly arrested, as we believe they would be, the democratic cause would be critically weakened thereby. We do not count this as a probability.

The importance which the cost of distribution plays in our economy is the subject of increasing attention in public investigations, radio programs, trade conventions, and among consumer groups. Our public is becoming better informed of the economics involved and is certain to become more critical as it continues to study the problem. The strides which the chain store and mail order organizations have made in the past five years correspond with the advance in efficiency which productive industries have demonstrated. These distributors are capturing an ever larger share of consumer markets and are showing increasing profirts from year to year. The best of department stores have failed to make comparable progress.

(*Continued on Page 38*)

# S. C. Carders and Spinners Discuss Cut Staple, Blends, Other Problems

THE Fall Meeting of the South Carolina Carders and Spinners' Division of the Southern Textile Association was held at the Hotel Franklin, Spartanburg, S. C., on Saturday morning, December 2, 1939, beginning at 10 o'clock. The chairman of the division, G. G. Simmons, plant superintendent of the Drayton Mills, Spartanburg, presided.

*The first part of this discussion, led by W. W. Splawn, overseer of spinning at Kendall Mills, Pelzer, S. C., was reported in the December 15th issue, covering an address by W. M. McLaurine and discussion on whether beats per inch or beats per pound is correct in speaking of working cotton. The remainder of the discussion follows:*

### Beater Speed and Quality

*Mr. Splawn*: Let's go on now to the next question: "*Does slowing down the beater speed affect the quality of the lap?*"

*Mr. Brannan*: Mr. Chairman, I think the question is a little out of line. Slowing down the beater speed sometimes improves the lap and sometimes does it harm. It depends upon the speed you are running when you begin to slow it down. I think the proper thng is to take the proper speed to give the best results. I would say 1050 R.P.M. I would say that with a speed of under 900 you are not getting proper cleaning.

*Mr. Splawn*: I think you have something there. We should know from where we are starting.

I might say, in regard to the first question, that sometimes we think the spinner has changed something, whereas the carder has been fooling with the beater speed.

### New Rayon Equipment

The next question: *"Have you had experience with the new one-beater picker for rayon and the new rayon card?"* Has anybody here had any experience with that or know anything about it? How about it, Mr. Crow?

*Mr. Crow*: Mr. Chairman, I have not had any experience with the one-beater picker. I do not know whether anybody else here has or not. I will say this, that I am giving it very careful consideration at this time. A few weeks ago I was in Biddeford, Maine, and visited the Saco-Lowell Shops, which are now developing a one-beater picker for spun rayon. It appears to me from the demonstration I saw in the shops at Biddeford and also from a visit to one mill that has an installation of it (which is the first and only mill, so far as I know, that up to now has an installation of that kind) to be a very practical machine for cut staple or spun rayon; and I think perhaps it is something that those of us who are running spun rayon will soon come to. But so far as practical experience goes, I have not had any up to this time.

*Mr. Brannan*: I should like to ask Mr. Crow a question about spun rayon. Not long ago I was in a mill where they have a one-process picker with three beaters. The spinners were running around twelve or thirteen sides on about 20s yarn, and they were running the rayon straight through the mill as if they were running 1¼" cotton or 1½" cotton. That man had what I consider excellent breaking strength on his rayon. I always run a single beater for running rayon, however. I was wondering if we fellows who first started out on the rayon did not go too far back to do it. He says he gets an evener lap and better running work and a better quality of yarn.

*Mr. Crow*: I do not know whether I can answer your question or not. We run our spun rayon on the conventional type of picker, which is a three-beater process. We spin 20s and 30s and between those, and even considerably finer. The yarn counts I will not name; they are considerably finer than the 30s mentioned. We have been and we are now getting very good results; but, to repeat what I said a moment ago, I think the one-beater picker built for the purpose of cut staple will give us decidedly better results than we can possibly obtain from the conventional set-up. You spoke of running yours on a one-beater picker on a single process. You just run it through the one beater?

*Mr. Brannan*: That is right.

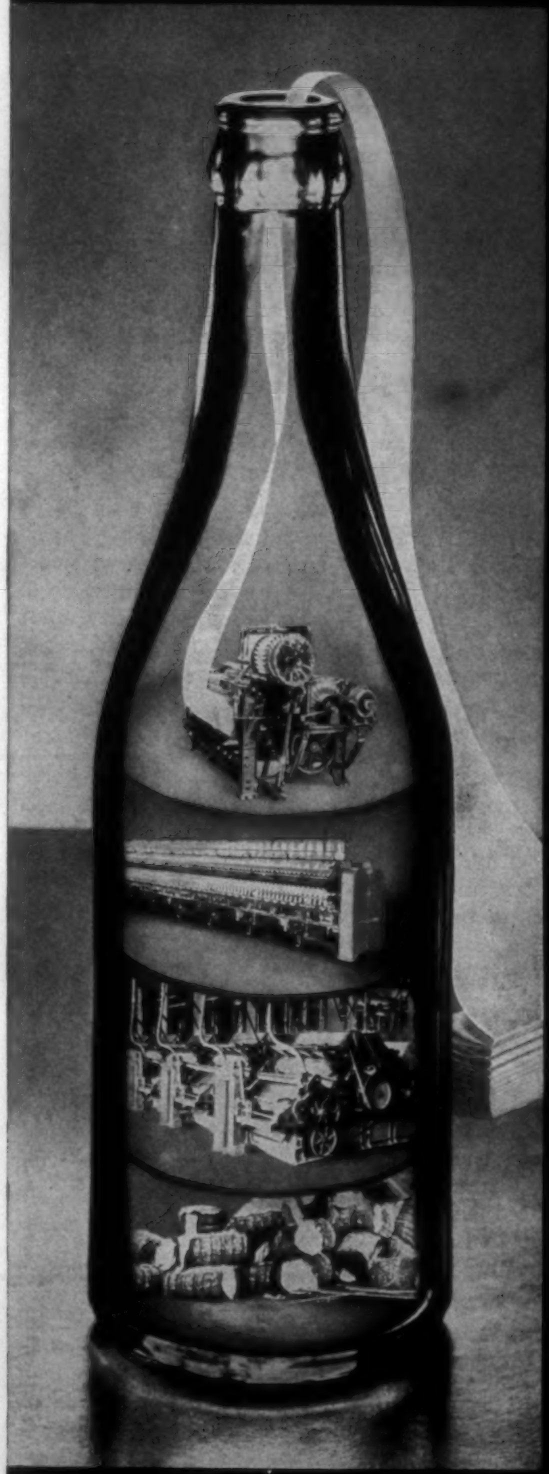
*Mr. Crow*: I presume you run your one beater in the conventional way, clockwise down. I might mention this fact; in the new picker that is being developed the beater runs anti-clockwise.

*Mr. Brannon*: Up stroke?

*Mr. Crow*: Yes. It is not a blade beater or a Buckley or Kirschner beater. It has a large round point, with a very blunt point, which runs anti-clockwise.

May I say this while I am on this subject? It has been very conclusively proven by actual laboratory follow-up and checks that on the conventional type of picker running on the cotton system you break from 20 to 30 per cent of your fibres going through the picker. On this new rayon picker that has recently been developed and is now ready to be put on the market you break an average of

# The Bottleneck of Your Mill is the Loom



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### Repair of Feed Roll Journals On Cards

*Mr. Splawn*: Let's take up Question No. 4: *"What is the best way to repair worn feed roll journals on cards?"* I know we spinners probably sometimes in going through the spinning room would know that one side is worn some. Now, what is the best way to repair worn feed rolls on the cards?

*Mr. Brannan*: I can not tell you the best way of doing that ,but I can tell you a satisfactory way, and that is the way I keep mine tight. We go over our feed rolls about once a year. All those that are worn (and most of them are that have been running a good long time) we take out and take them to the shop and have the shop build them up with bronze and then put them in a lathe and have them turned down to standard size. We also take out the bearings when we take out the worn rolls and have new bearings put in there.

*Question*: What do you allow there before you call a journal worn?

*Mr. Brannan*: You know if it is worn any at all it is not right. If it is worn any at all we have it built up. The feed roll is one of the most important settings in the card—the feed roll and the licker-in, and if it is worn any at all it is worn .008 to .010 of an inch, which is not much but allows too much play there. We do not repair our feed roll bearings but throw them away and get new ones, because we find that when they are worn any at all it is so little that it is hard to repair them in the shop.

*Question*: Do you have a gauge and measure the rolls and take out those that are worn so many one-thousandths of an inch?

*Mr. Brannon*: No, sir. If it is worn any at all we take it out. I go over mine once a year like that. I do not think there is a card room in the country that does not have some worn ones. I follow that system and once a year go over the feed roll bearings and licker-in bearings.

*Mr. Splawn*: Has anybody a different way of handling that? What do you think of that, Mr. Lockman?

*Frank D. Lockman,* Supt., Monarch Mills, Lockhart: Well, I have seen it done in other ways, Mr. Chairman. I do not know which is the best way, but I have seen the boxes taken off and split in half—split down just about halfway of each box. Of course, I have been on the superintendent's job for a long time, and I have never seen many feed rolls repaired, or boxes, either. I know often they are in bad condition. There is a lot of play up and down. I have never yet seen where a feed roll was worn on the bottom. You can see the tool marks there, although laterally it might have 1/16" play. The wear is always on the top. So when you split that bearing you put the weight on the feed roll and allow the weight to press down on the cotton. The roll is pressed up all the time against the top of the box, and the only wear you would have when you split that bearing you have the full weight of the lever hanging on it.

*Mr. Splawn*: You would think, then, that it would be the bearing rather than the journal, and you would just let it down as the top of the bearing wears?

*Mr. Lockman*: Yes, sir. They both wear; the journal and the bearing both wear. But I have never yet seen the bottom of the bearing worn, and I guess I have looked at a hundred.

*Mr. Splawn*: Do I understand you to say you have not replaced the journal?

*Mr. Lockman*: No, unless it is worn very much. We might have replaced, out of a hundred-odd cards, two or three journals. There was not enough wear there to cause us to feel justified in building up on the journals, and there was no wear at all on the bottom of the box, and that was the only place where it would cause you any trouble.

### Splitting Laps On Spun Rayon

*Mr. Splawn*: Is there anything else on that? If not, let's go on to Question No. 5, because our time is getting short. *"What can be done to prevent laps splitting on spun rayon, other than using bobbins of slubber roving wound in the lap?"*

You fellows who have been having split laps give us something on that. What do you think about it, Mr. Byars?

*H. C. Byars,* Overseer Carding, Drayton Mills, Spartanburg: I do not know, sir. That is really something I myself should like to know. We have not been able to stop that yet, although I think we have improved it some from what it was. We still have that trouble, and I should like to get some information on the way to stop it.

*Mr. Splawn*: Well, is the way mentioned the best method you have found to avoid split laps?

*Mr. Byars*: Well, we have taken out the top calender roll and run it on the big calender roll. We had it, I reckon you might say, threaded up. We run loose on top. That has helped some, I think. We run three beaters. We run some with just one beater and run it through twice. We do not have quite so much split in there. It has helped us considerably, really, but we have not gotten entirely away from it yet.

*Mr. Splawn*: Has anyone else any recommendations?

*Mr. Brannan*: I hate to keep getting up so much, but I should like to say it is pretty hard to get away from that lap-splitting. I saw a fellow the other day who has the same roll that gentleman was speaking about. Cutting into that roll he had a wire. It was wound very tight. He had nine leather straps and had the regular picker lap. It was shoved just as close up to the calender roll as he could get it. He said the wire was to prevent those rings from splitting the lap. He would wrap it completely around those rings and it would be about an inch apart from one end to the other. Then he had nine leather straps that come out to a point, lying on the screen, and all that rayon would come out on the screen and fall on that point. Then he had it shoved just as tight against that calender roll as he could get it, and he said he rarely had a split lap. I thought he had about the best layout I had seen.

*Mr. Splawn*: Anyone who is running spun rayon and is not having split laps is different from anybody else.

### Drawing Rolls for Spun Rayon

The next question is: *"What type of drawing rolls is best for spun rayon?"*

*Mr. Byars*: We have the metallic roll, but I think the leather-covered roll really will give a more even sliver. I do not know from experience, but that is the way I feel about it.

*Mr. Splawn*: You thnk the leather rolls are the best, then?

*Mr. Byars*: I think so, yes.

*Mr. Splawn*: I have seen metallic rolls and leather and cork also. Right now we are using metallic rolls.

*Mr. Brannan*: I think the gentleman is right there about the rolls. I tried metallic and cork and also the synthetic rolls. I got very satisfactory results from both the cork and the synthetic rolls, with rayon. Frankly speaking, I do not think metallic rolls have any place in the cotton mill. I have been running them for a long time, but that is my opinion.

*Mr. Splawn*: We can not take them out right now.

*Mr. Brannan*: We can't either.

### Employee Instruction

*Mr. Splawn*: The next question reads: *"How do you handle the problem of acquainting new employees with: (a) their particular job, (b) safety in the plant, (c) general mill policy; (d) what follow-up method do you use? (e) how long should this acquaintance period continue before an employee is considered up to the average?"*

It may seem a little out of line to some of you to bring up a question like this at this time, but it follows pretty well after Mr. McLaurine's talk. I think the object of the question is to find the best method, when a new employee is taken into the plant, of having him instructed right. I think we have all had the experience of finding they are instructed wrong. Who has a special policy of instructing them, and how should we go about it?

*Mr. Brannan*: Frankly, Mr. Chairman, I think that question is a little out of line because it takes about four times as long to teach a spinner as to teach an employee to operate a spooler, for instance.

*Mr. Splawn*: I think this question concerns the new employee in the plant. I believe that is one of the biggest problems we have in the mill. In my opinion, if a man can handle that right and follow it up he has settled about 60 per cent of his troubles, and I believe the greater part of that 60 per cent of his troubles is in handling himself. Personally, I think if a man has mastered that, which I do not believe he can ever do entirely, so he can wrap it up in the palm of his hand and control it, he has solved the problem to a very large extent; but knowing safety plans and knowing the fellow is well acquainted with what is going on I think is very important.

### Twist and Drafts for Blends

If no one has anything to say on that let's take up Question No. 8: *"How do you arrive at the proper twist and drafts for spinning rayon staple and blends?"*

For instance, if you are getting along all right on 100 per cent viscose, say 1½ denier, and you change over to 3 denier or 5 denier, do you have any certain way of determining what is the proper draft and twist for that stock?

(*Continued on Page 34*)

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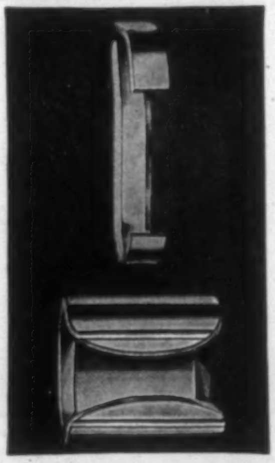

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### By Albert Palmer

Crompton & Knowles Loom Works

THE rapid increase in the consumption of rayon staple fibre indicates that it is emerging from the experimental stages and that it henceforth will be a recognized material for the manufacture of fabrics for wearing apparel. In a brief period of eight years the annual domestic use of this fibre has progressed steadily from about 3 million pounds to approximately 100 million pounds.

For this reason, a survey of the use and the weaving of fabrics made from rayon staple alone or blended with other fibres, such as cotton, wool, silk and mohair, is not without point.

The principal uses for fabrics made from these fibre blends have been to date for ladies' dress goods and sport wear for men and women. A substantial yardage has gone into the manufacture of men's summer suits. Another important, but potential use is in the heavier suitings; namely, those weighing 12 ounces per yard and more. While as yet the goods of this last classification have not come on the market in great quantity, they undoubtedly will be sold in increasing volume, particularly as the price of rool rises.

## Two Separate Branches of Manufacturing

Despite the large output, many questions remain to be answered relative to blended fabrics. There is a wide range of ideas concerning the manufacturing procedure and the resulting products, primarily, because two entirely different types of mills and two entirely different types of clothing manufacturers are involved. On the one hand, there are the cotton mills which produce narrow goods for the consumption of the section of the clothing trade which is engaged in the manufacture of ladies' wear and men's sport wear and summer suits. On the other hand, there are the worsted and woolen mills which manufacture wide goods for the cutters-up who make men's suits for business wear. So far these two divisions of the trade have followed their conventional methods of operation, because their equipment has governed this procedure. Admittedly, however, economies can be derived through more suitable standards of practice. Somewhere between the two extremes is an intermediate ground which, if adopted, would enable the clothing trade to operate with a maximum degree of efficiency and which would permit the mills to sell their products over the entire market, rather than to only one section of it.

A survey of mills which are making blended fabrics indicates that automatic bobbin changing looms of both the single shuttle and the multi-shuttle or box type are in general use. In cotton mills, as is to be expected, these machines are narrow dobby looms, the majority of which have a reed space about 45" wide. In worsted and woolen mills, they are equipped mainly with Knowles heads and have a reed space approximately 82" and 92" wide.

## Few Alterations of Machines

The constructional features of these looms are the same as those that exist in machines commonly used for weaving cotton and worsted fabrics. Few, if any, alterations have been made. Those that have been relate principally to such items as the shuttles and the take-up. For example, fur has been inserted in the shuttles and various kinds of take-up roll covering made of rubber and cork rubber have been substituted for the perforated steel or tin covering that generally is used by manufacturers of cotton and worsted fabrics.

If this new section of the textile industry is to be unified and standardized in the interest of efficient operation, the existing weaving equipment should be examined critically in the light of the characteristics of the fabrics that are being made, and in the light of the uses to which they are being put. In this connection attention should be directed first to the width of the looms, taking into consideration the most economical width of the finished fabric from the standpoint of the clothing manufacturer, and the contraction of the cloth between the reeded width and the finished state.

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*Excerpts of paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 6, 1939.

### Cloth Width Important Factor

Numerous discussions have taken place within the last year relative to cloth width. These have been carried on largely by the converters and selling agents, who apparently feel that if there were no physical drawbacks in the production of blended fabrics, wider widths would be more acceptable to the apparel manufacturers. The advantage of wider cloth to the cutters-up results from the greater ease with which patterns can be laid out on wide goods. Not only is time saved in the process of marking off a pattern, but it also is saved in laying out the many layers of fabric which are to be cut from the "lay." To prepare for the cutting operation with wide goods takes little, if any, more time, than to do so with narrow goods; consequently the production per unit of time is increased materially with the former. Not only are there savings in this direction, but also there are economies through the elimination of waste. Generally speaking, patterns can be cut from wide goods with less waste than from narrow goods. Furthermore, there is not the necessity for the additional sewing which results from piecings that must be made where the component parts of a garment are cut from narrow goods.

From the standpoint of quality, there also is an advantage in wide goods. For instance, manufacturers of men's sportwear say that in making shirts and slacks they are, for reasons of economy, forced to cut the shirts separately from the slacks where they use narrow goods. Thus they are bothered with variations in color. With wide goods, on the other hand, the shirts and the slacks can be cut together so that there is no question of a good color match.

To illustrate more specifically the effect of these requirements upon weaving equipment, the use of blended fabrics for men's wear was investigated. The consensus of opinion among forward-looking clothing manufacturers seemed to be that goods in the neighborhood of 60" wide are the most desirable for making men's apparel. Naturally, these conclusions were reached without reference to the existing equipment but with the sole purpose of determining the cloth width which is most ideally suitable for the manufacture of this type of clothing. Thus, a working base was established, from which, with information concerning the contraction, the most desirable loom width could be established.

### 6" Allowance for Contraction

The information that is available concerning the contraction of blended fabrics is somewhat contradictory. This arises through the wide variety of blends of rayon staple, wool, cotton, silk and mohair that are being made. In general terms, however, an allowance of 6" appears to be within reason; hence with an additional allowance of 6" for the difference between the reeded width of the cloth and the between swords measurement of the loom, a total of 12" must be added to the finished width of the cloth. The conclusion, then, is that a loom 72" in its between swords measurement will cover the general range of blended fabrics that are being produced.

A consideration of the harness capacity of the most

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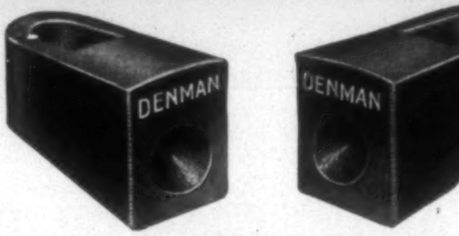

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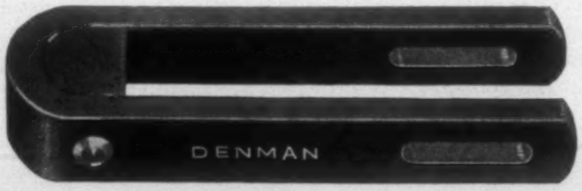

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suitable loom also is important. In the main, the looms which are being used by cotton mills are equipped with dobbies of 20 or 25 harness capacity. Those of the worsted and woolen mills have 20 or 25 harness Knowles heads. Naturally, each section of the industry leans toward the mechanisms with which it is most familiar and for which it has the auxiliary equipment; namely, harness chain and box chain, not to mention the chain which is required for multipliers. The mills which favor dobbies feel that they are more simple and are capable of running at a higher speed than the Knowles head. On the other hand, those which favor the Knowles head contend that it makes a cleaner shed and that its greater strength is better suited for the type of weaving in question.

There is no argument concerning the fact that the Knowles head has distinct advantages over the dobby from the shedding standpoint. In the first place, it opens the harnesses in much less time than is taken by the dobby. With it the harnesses remain stationary in the open position, whereas with the dobby the harnesses theoretically have no dwell and must be opened wider to give the same shed as the Knowles head when the shuttle is entering the shed at the selvage of the cloth, and when it is leaving the shed at the opposite selvage.

While dobbies are satisfactory for narrow looms, they are not so suitable for looms 72" between swords. The wide harness frames, the heavy pull-down springs and the load of the warp itself put a severe strain on the dobby—a load for which the mechanism never was intended. Of course, there are instances where dobby looms are being used on wide looms with apparent success. However, as a general conclusion, it is safe to say that the Knowles head with its positive motion and other inherent advantages is more suitable for the loom that will weave blended fabrics of wide widths.

### Shuttle Capacity

The third basic characteristic which must receive attention is the matter of shuttle capacity. Blended fabrics at present are being woven on both single shuttle and multi-shuttle or box looms. Here again, the present operating practice is dependent upon the equipment which the mills now have rather than upon conditions of a more fundamental nature. Basically, the comparison of single shuttle against multi-shuttle looms should be reduced to a consideration of the necessity for mixing filling, and second, of the desirability of providing for more fancy fabrics.

With regard to filling mixing, there is difference of opinion, depending upon the ability of the mills to make uniform yarns and upon the construction of the fabric. Generally with plain goods that are to be piece dyed, the results are satisfactory provided care is taken in making the yarn. However, with colored yarn or with yarn which is uneven, filling mixing through the medium of two or more shuttles is used in the prevention of streaked effects in the goods.

A box loom, of course, is required to take advantage of cross dyed effects, yarns of different twists, and the fancy filling effects that often are used in dress goods and suitings.

### Take-Up Roll Covering

Take-up roll covering is another material about which there is no agreement. At the present time, for blended fabrics, sandpaper, perforated tin, perforated steel and various types of material made of cork and rubber, alone or in combination, are being used. The tendency seems to be away from perforated steel and tin and toward the cork or rubber coverings.

### Humidity

The humidity maintained by the mills which are weaving spun rayon blends is an important matter. Those with a worsted background do not seem to favor humidity whereas those with a cotton background hold it at an amount which is in the neighborhood of 60 to 65%. These findings are substantiated by the Parks-Cramer Co., who say that for spun rayon, the relative humidities should not be below a minimum of 55 to 60% nor above a maximum of 70 to 75%. Their studies, however, indicate that spun rayon can be woven at humidities up to 80% because the danger of over-stretching the blended yarn under conditions of high humidity is less serious than it is with filament rayon. Incidentally, they stress the fact that a minimum temperature of 80 degrees F. should be maintained to prevent hardness in the yarn.

The maintenance of uniform atmospheric conditions in the weave room is highly important from the production standpoint, particularly with the fine adjustments which are necessary manufacturing some fabrics. If the humidity changes, loom stoppage results because of the altered physical characteristics of the bobbins, shuttles, binders and let-off parts, not to mention the yarn itself. These difficulties must be corrected at the expense of work on the part of the loomfixer, who must make adjustments to enable the machines to operate under the new conditions. This work can be avoided where the atmospheric conditions are controlled closely and loom stoppage is reduced to a minimum. Not only production is increased, but also quality is improved, since every stop is a potential cause for a defect in the cloth.

There appears to be very little known concerning the relationship of humidity to the behavior of the yarns themselves. So far, the emphasis seems to have been placed primarily on the matter of production. Undoubtedly a scientific study of the behavior of spun rayon blends under various atmospheric conditions would yield beneficial results in the manufacture of fabrics in which these materials are used.

### More Study Needed

The information and conclusions of this paper are based upon a survey which included interviews with clothing manufacturers, converters, dyers and finishers, mill selling agents, mills, and manufacturers of rayon staple fibre, as well as various organizations which, though not directly in the textile industry, are closely associated with it. Although in some respects there is a meeting of the minds, there is in general a great difference of opinion concerning the manufacture of fabrics from spun rayon alone or blended with other fibres. The situation indicates the necessity for further and more extensive studies on the part of the rayon producers, the machinery manufacturers, and the mills.

## Supreme Court of Mass. Hands Down Processing Tax Decision

Boston, Mass.—Carolina Textile Co. vs. Eastern Yarn Co., of Newton, Mass. The full bench of Supreme Court of Massachusetts handed down a decision to the effect that Eastern Yarn Co., of Newton, Mass., is not entitled to recover the amount of a processing tax added to the price of yarn purchased off Carolina Textile Co., of Dillon, S. C., before U. S. Supreme Court declared that tax unconstitutional.

The question arose in a suit brought by Carolina Textile Co. against Eastern Yarn Co. to recover $841, alleged to be due for yarn sold in October, 1936. It was agreed that amount was due plaintiff and a finding to that effect was entered in District Court. But defendant Eastern Yarn Co. filed in that suit a claim in set-off against Carolina Textile Co. to recover a total of $870 as processing tax charged Carolina Textile Co. on other yarn purchased by it on September 19, 1935, and September 20, 1935.

The contract contained the provision: "If there is any reduction in the cotton processing tax the price herein stated is to be correspondingly reduced."

The State Supreme Court says: "That tax, imposed under Agricultural Adjustment Act of May 12, 1933, was held unconstitutional by Supreme Court of United States on January 6, 1936, after the goods bought by defendant in this case had been paid for.

"It was not found that plaintiff (Carolina Textile Co.) had paid the tax nor, if the tax had been paid, that it had been refunded. The price for the goods doubtless was fixed after consideration of the tax, but it consisted of a single sum being the price, without any express addition for the tax, and without any specification of amount by which it was made larger because of the tax. The judge (of District Court) found for plaintiff (Carolina Textile Co., ruling defendant was not entitled to recover the amount of tax) and Appellate Division (of District Court) dismissed the report. Defendant appealed (to Supreme Court).

"The tax was imposed upon the first domestic possessor. We assume in favor of appellant that plaintiff was so taxed. At any rate, defendant was not subject to the tax, and it was not concerned with its validity or its payment. In absence of contract relative to the tax, it would have to pay the price for the goods and only the price regardless of existence or amount of the tax. Any right of defendant must depend upon provision quoted from the contract. It was held by a divided court in Johnson vs. Igleheart Bros., Inc. (Federal Supreme Court) that annulment of processing tax as unconstitutional was not a reduction of it. The act gave power to Secretary of Agriculture to adjust the rate of the tax by increase or reduction, and very likely that was the change contemplated by the contract. But, however this may be, we think that the contract did not contemplate a readjustment of the price after payment had been made and the transaction had been apparently terminated.

"Order dismissing report affirmed." In other words, the high court affirms the action of District Court in finding for plaintiff that Eastern Yarn Co. is not entitled to recover the amount of the price it paid which represented the tax.

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## The Cotton Farmer and the Processing Tax

"Cotton is unique among the major agricultural commodities in its vulnerability to competition from powerful and aggressive substitutes," declared Dr. Claudius T. Murchison, president of the Cotton-Textile Institute, in an address before the Cotton Consumption Council in New Orleans on Tuesday, December 12th. Dr. Murchison pointed out that it is vital for the cotton farmer to realize this fact and take into account in his thinking about the future of the cotton fiber and the relationship of the grower of cotton to the cotton textile industry. The present world production of rayon is equivalent, allowing for rayon's greater coverage, to about 6 million bales of cotton. Ten years ago the equivalent was 1 million bales. The disquieting feature lies in the rapidity of growth which synthetic fibers exhibit and in the strength of the forces which are pressing them forward.

"Important inroads upon cotton," said Dr. Murchison, "have also been made by paper and this invasion is still rapidly proceeding. All of us are witnesses to the wide use of paper towels, napkins and table covers, but paper as a competitor of cotton has probably had its greatest success in the bag trade. Normally, nearly five hundred million yards of cotton cloth which is equivalent to 6% of all cotton consumed have gone into the manufacture of cotton bags. Now the tendency is toward a rapidly increasing use of paper bags for such important items as sugar, salt, flour and cement, in addition to many others. In numerous stores consumers are now charged an extra price of as much as two cents for five pounds of sugar bought in a cotton pocket rather than in a paper bag."

"Furthermore," said Dr. Murchison, "in addition to this new competition from paper as a material for containers, cotton also protects itself with increasing difficulty from such substitutes as pasteboard cartons, wood crates and tin cans, all of which competition is primarily on a price basis."

Speaking of the relationship of cotton manufacture to cotton growing, Dr. Murchison said "that cotton manufacturers as a group are sympathetic with the general objectives of the agricultural program as it relates to cotton. They want the farmers to prosper because the farm population is an important consumer of cotton goods. Cotton manufacturers know from their own experience the deadly effects of unwieldy surpluses and chronic overproduction. Hence, they regarded with favor the acreage reduction program and the establishment of marketing quotas. They likewise recognized the necessity of compensation or benefit payment to farmers. They opposed the processing tax as a means of financing the payments in the honest belief that taxation for the support of so important a program should have a broader base. They felt that the concentration of this heavy tax burden upon cotton alone would tend to weaken the competitive position of cotton already imperiled on so many fronts and eventually bring about the destructiton of the very objective that was being sought."

"We shall continue as forcefully as possible," declared Dr. Murchison, "to resist a processing tax on cotton or any equivalent to a processing tax not only in our own interests, but in the interest of cotton as an agricultural commodity and as an article of commerce. We believe that cotton cannot thrive or expand or grow great carrying upon its shoulders the dead weight of this 'old man of the sea.' "

## November Cotton Use in Big Jump; Month's Exports Off

Washington, D. C.—Counting round as half bales and excluding linters 718,721 bales of cotton were consumed during November compared with 596,416 bales in the same month last year, according to preliminary consumption statistics made public by the Census Bureau, Department of Commerce. Consumption for the four months ended November 30th totaled 2,659,007. Sales compared with 2,233,081 bales in the same period a year ago.

Cotton on hand in consuming establishments November 30th totaled 1,782,949 bales valued at $30,288,000, compared November 30th, a year ago, and in public and at compresses there was a total of 15,484,508 bales and 15,591,629 bales for the two periods, respectively, of total consumption during November, this year, 609,862 bales were used in the cotton-growing States, 88,705 in New England States, and 20,154 in all other States.

## Tennessee Eastman Publishes New Book On Acetate Rayon

A rayon educational book, "The Story of Eastman Acetate Rayon," which largely depends upon photographs to tell the story, has been published by Tennessee Eastman Corp.

The book illustrates the steps in the process of producing cellulose acetate rayon yarn and staple fiber. The actual spinning process is shown in diagram. Filament yarn in various put-ups is illustrated as well as a mass Teca staple drawn out to show the "crimp." The staple is then shown in the form of fiber, top, roving and on bobbins.

Clever diagrams illustrate the results of the blending of fibers, effects obtained by twisting dissimilar yarns and finally weaving different yarns in the warp and filling.

Close-up pictures showing fabric texture as well as the results of burning tests applied to various yarns for identification as well as of a weave diagram, chain and drawing-in draft are used.

In a separate large envelop of Kodapak, cellulose acetate film, swatches of representative Eastman acetate rayon fabrics are mounted.

The book will be distributed without charge of the heads of college home economics departments and to advertising managers, fabric and dress buyers, and supervisors of educational departments in department stores.

## Unfixed Cotton Call Sales Up

Washington, D. C.—The Commodity Exchange Administration reports a total of 1,802,400 bales of unfixed call sales of cotton based on New York cotton futures for December 8, 1939, this being an increase of 364,950 bales over the total of 1,437,450 bales reported for December 1st.

## What is Spinning Value of American Crop?

(By Oscar Johnson, in *Cotton Digest*)

I happen to know that a great deal of work has been done in England, France, Italy and Germany in the matter of investigating the relative values of the various qualities and varieties of cotton coming to those markets. Frankly, I believe that the foreign mills have exercised more care, and have done more research work in connection with the character of fibre they spin than have our American mills.

Cotton from Peru and Egypt is distinctly superior in point of tensile strength and spinning value to most, if not all, of our American cotton. Cotton produced from native seed in Africa and India cannot be compared with the American growth because it is an utterly dissimilar plant; it might even be said to be an entirely different species of plant, since you cannot cross or hybridize the native Indian and African cotton with American cotton. For a good many years, the British Government has done intensive breeding work in Uganda. They have finally acclimated American cotton, and are now producing, in fairly substantial quantities, a cotton which is descended directly from the American species, and which is adapted to their climate and soil. This cotton, however, does not equal American cotton in spinning value.

I have not seen reports of tests made to determine the relative value of the Brazilian and Argentine cotton as compared with American. I have reference to cotton produced in Sao Paula, Southern Brazil, and in the several cotton producing States of Argentina. The cotton produced in Pernambuco, Northern Brazil, is a perennial commonly called 'tree cotton" and differs entirely from the cotton grown in the United States. This cotton has been grown in Northern Brazil for a great many years. As a matter of fact, it was grown there as early, if not earlier, than our cotton in the United States. That cotton does not compare favorably in spinning value with United States cotton.

Both Brazil and Argentina are doing much to improve the quality and spinning value of their respective cottons. The soil and climate in the Argentine territory known as Chaco is almost identical with the soil and climate in the Black belt of Texas. In the beginning in both countries, seed of mixed varieties were planted, and methods of handling were crude. The agricultural colleges of both nations have given particular attention to cotton breeding. In the last few years we have had agronomists from both Brazil and Argentina on our property studying breeding methods. I found these men exceptionally capable.

You probably know that the spinning value of cotton is not a constant factor, that is to say, the spinning value of D. & P. L. 11-A, produced on our plantation at Scott in 1937, is not necessarily identical with the value of the crop of 1938. Much research work has been, and is being done, in an effort to determine the causes for this variation, but so far without success. Cotton varies from year to year both in tensile strength and in length of fibre.

We plant only seed bred by ourselves and carefully selected. From the 1938 crop we got a very substantial quantity of cotton measuring 1⅛-inch in staple. Using the same seed, on the same lands, and under similar climatic conditions in 1939, we got no 1⅛-inch to speak of.

The United States Government is now conducting a series of experiments in which they are comparing the relative spinning value of a half dozen or a dozen of the most prominent seed varieties, and at the same time they are comparing cotton of the same variety produced in different areas and in different years. Spinning tests are being run on these samples covering a period of four or five years. The results will prove interesting, but I am somewhat skeptical as to the value. Until science can reveal the causes which occasion variations as to staple and tensile strength in cotton produced from identical seed and on the same soil but in different years, we are still confronted by the difficulties now facing us, namely, an inability to determine in advance the tensile strength of a given crop.

A special section, or committee of the National Cotton Council, has been set up to study this subject-matter, and will, in the course of the next few months, I am quite sure, assemble very interesting data. In its work the committee will have recourse to studies being made by the United States Government and studies being made by various spinners. Several of the manufacturers of tire cloth are conducting some very intensive experimental work, and doing a great deal of research.

## Eight Rockingham Mill Houses Swept By Fire

Rockingham, N. C.—Eight houses on "Shaw Hill," half a mile southwest of here, burned Dec. 18th. They were owned by the Entwistle Mill, and occupied by employees of the mill.

## Mill Banquet At Hudson, N. C.

B. B. Hayes, secretary and treasurer of the Hudson Cotton Mfg. Co., and Caldwell Cotton Mills, at Hudson, N. C., the Nelson Cotton Mills, at Whitnel, N. C., and the Moore Cotton Mills, at Lenoir, N. C., entertained the directors, superintendents and overseers of his mills at a very enjoyable dinner in the school building at Hudson on Saturday night, December 16th.

Present at the dinner were T. H. Broyhill, president of the Moore Cotton Mills; A. G. Foard, president of the Nelson Cotton Mills; J. T. Pritchett, president of the Caldwell Cotton Mills; G. F. Harper, president of the Hudson Cotton Mills, and F. H. Chamberlain, a machinery dealer of Lincolnton, N. C. Mr. Bell, a banker of Lenoir, N. C., and a director of all of the mills, was also present.

During the meeting each superintendent and overseer was called upon to give his name and the number of years employed and most of them had a record of long service, some extending over a period of 25 years or more.

During the meeting B. B. Hayes expressed his appreciation of the loyal service which had been rendered this year.

The guest speaker was David Clark, editor of the TEXTILE BULLETIN, who outlined the background of the cotton mill employees of the South and praised their manufacturing ability.

Before the close of the meeting a large ham was presented to all superintendents and overseers.

# Nylon Manufacture Begun

MANUFACTURE of nylon yarn in the first unit of the new plant at Seaford, Del., began on December 15th, the du Pont Co. has announced. Production of the yarn, scheduled originally for early in 1940, was advanced several weeks, due to the project being completed earlier than was anticipated when the construction work started January 20th last.

Operations will proceed gradually, gaining speed as experience develops with equipment and personnel. A single spinning machine was started and the product it to be minutely observed and proved satisfactory before other machines are put in operation. Capacity levels probably will not be reached for several months.

The plant is the first of its kind ever built, designed to fit an operation never before undertaken. The original unit is a single building, 1,052 feet long and 272 feet wide. Slightly irregular in shape, it is essentially an elongated, single-story rectangle, extending from a six-floor tower at one end. The roof is flat, broken by terrace-like set-backs at different elevations. Large penthouses accommodate air-conditioning equipment, with cowls and supply ducts coiling across them.

The walls are of red brick, with plentiful window space assuring maximum daylight for the service area. The facade is relieved by concrete trim and the window openings. A temporary wall closes in one of the long sides, preparatory to a future addition.

The plant gives the impression of extreme neatness and order. Concrete roads and walks have been laid throughout the grounds. The interior walls of the plant are faced with buff tile. The floors are of concrete. To to the south of the structure is a large ultra-modern power plant, with a 250-foot stack. It is connected by pipe line to the Nanticmoke river several hundred yards distant, where oil storage tanks and a dock have been erected. Facing the plant is a two-story administrative office building.

The manufacturing process begins in the tower, reached by metal stairways. On the top level are huge insulated vessels of stainless steel. Below are other large receptacles, called autoclaves, extending through two floors of the building. Pipes, layer upon layer, line ceiling and walls, forming strange geometric patterns as they converge. On a lower level is a long line of shining metal canisters reaching from floor to ceiling. Each floor is devoted to a separate phase of the operation as the material flows downward through the crucibles of chemistry.

Electrical instruments mounted on panels guide the process with minute precision. Robot observers signal with flashing lights and chimes. Temperatures and pressures are recorded in vari-colored lines on paper discs. There are scales that print measures of weight on ticker-tapes similar to those in a stock broker's office. Each aspect of the performance is carefully and systematically scheduled to the split second.

On the lower levels of the tow, intricate mechanisms designated as spinning units transform the nylon flakes into the slender, web-like filaments of nylon yarn. These units are grouped in batteries of twenty, set in horizontal wells through the floor. From the top, they resemble circular flour sifters, shaped to fit into the apparatus. They are kept filled with the flake-like nylon chips by mobile hoppers, traveling along an overhead rail. Here the material is melted, then pumped under pressure through "spinnerets"—cups pierced with tiny holes. On the level below, the filaments appear, almost invisible individually as they become solid upon reaching the air. The fibres are again whisked from view down a narrow pipe-like chimney, where on the floor below they are wound on bobbins.

The man-made harvest is complete as the strands spin around the cylinder.

From this point, the yarn begins its progression through the various processing operations. The length of the plant is partitioned laterally into a series of long rooms, housing rows of textile machinery. Running at high speeds, these devices rotate spools and bobbins. The batteries of machines stand row on row along long aisles, the regimented ranks of modern industry. Their mission is to twist and otherwise prepare the product for industrial purposes.

After a "pre-twisting" to facilitate handling, the bundle of fibres is drawn or stretched to impart the strength and elasticity peculiar to nylon. This is accomplished by a machine which stretches the yarn between two rotating devices going at different speeds. Chemists characterize this process as a rearrangement of the nylon molecules in an orderly, lengthwise array, rather than in helter-skelter fashion like individual straws in a hay stack.

The yarn is then twisted and given a "size" and lubricant in preparation for knitting and weaving. After final inspection it is packaged in skeins, cones or other forms and delivered to the shipping room at the building's extreme end, where a loading platform parallels the railroad tracks.

Longitudinally, the plant is bisected by a corridor separating the manufacturing from the service section. This area provides quarters for store rooms, machine shops, a control laboratory, supervisory offices, locker rooms and a cafeteria.

The air-conditioning plant is one of the most modern industrial systems of its type ever constructed. The conditioning units are housed in special rooms above the roof. Refrigeration equipment is located in the power plant. The chilled water for the units is piped in underground. Temperature and relative humidity are maintained at a constant throughout the plant.

The plant will produce polymer, as well as yarn. Some of the polymer will be made into brush bristles and surgical sutures, among other articles, by the du Pont Plastics Department plant at Arlington, N. J.

The plant, when in complete operation, will produce approximately four million pounds of nylon yarn a year.

About 850 workers will be employed in operating the plant.

Opening of the plant climaxes a ten-year research program. Nylon fibres for textile uses, such as will be manufactured at Seaford, are wholly man-made and have no counterpart in nature. One of the most promising uses is in hosiery. Other textile applications, such as knit goods, underwear, and woven dress goods, are the subjects of experimentation.

The nylon process is begun in the du Pont plant at Belle, W. Va., which has been enlarged in the last year. The "intermediates" made at Belle will be shipped to Seaford.

The Seaford plant site is on the outskirts of the town. It comprises several hundred acres. Two miles of railroad spur have been built into the plant from the Pennsylvania tracks nearby. River transportation will be used for fuel, oil being barged up from the Chesapeake Bay. Other shipments will be made by rail or truck.

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VICTOR

MILL STARCH

*"The Weavers' Friend"*

BOILS THIN • HAS MORE PENETRATION • CARRIES WEIGHT INTO THE FABRIC

*Distributed by*

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THE KEEVER STARCH CO. COLUMBUS, OHIO

# Personal News

R. J. Woods is now superintendent and treasurer of the Buffalo Mills, Stubbs, N. C.

K. E. Gaffney has succeeded C. P. Bache as secretary of the Banning (Ga.) Mills.

A. B. Carr has succeeded F. L. Carr as president of the Wilson (N. C.) Cotton Mills.

Walter Whatley has succeeded L. W. Allgood as superintendent of the Waverly Mills, Laurinburg, N. C.

Bonner S. Mills, Jr., has succeeded C. H. Reed as secretary of the Elmore Corp., Spindale, N. C.

F. G. Feaster, formerly of Graniteville, S. C., is now superintendent of Santee Mills, Orangeburg, S. C.

Chas. L. Kaufman has become secretary and treasurer of the Aberfoyle Co., Norfolk, Va.

J. M. Houth has become superintendent of the Clearwater (S. C.) Mfg. Co.

L. G. Sjostrom has succeeded J. F. Yare as superintendent of the Virginia Woolen Co., Winchester, Va.

R. F. Craig, treasurer of the Alba Twine Mills, Mt. Holly, N. C., has also assumed the position of president.

W. N. Carpenter has accepted the position as superintendent of Aponaug Mfg. Co. No. 2, at West Point, Miss.

W. H. Taylor has accepted the position of superintendent of the Lower Mill of the Kendall Co., Pelzer, S. C.

Herman Renger has become superintendent of the Albemarle Weaving Co., Charlottesville, Va.

Harry McDowell has succeeded Claud A. Mast as superintendent of the Bonham (Tex.) Cotton Mills.

E. H. Darling has become treasurer of the Saratoga Victory Mills at Albertville, Ala., and Guntersville, Ala.

Cleveland Adams is now superintendent of Mill No. 1 of the Cowikee Mills, Eufaula, Ala.

Z. B. Mangum has succeeded O. H. Dunn as superintendent of the Avondale Mills, Lafayette, Ala.

S. L. Bolton has become superintendent of the Bradford Mills, Prattville, Ala.

V. A. Mims has succeeded O. H. Dunn as superintendent of the Avondale Mills, Sycamore, Ala.

C .C. Crockett has become superintendent of the Morrillton (Ark.) Cotton Mills.

J. H. Clark is now superintendent of the Carter Mills, Lincolnton, N. C.

J. T. Honeycutt is now superintendent of the Greenville (N. C.) Spinners, Inc.

H. M. Fletcher, Jr., is now superintendent of the Pepperton Cotton Mills, Jackson, Ga.

A. O. Conquitt is now superintendent of the Willinca Cotton Mills, Marietta, Ga.

W. Floersheim is now superintendent of the Stonewall (Miss.) Cotton Mills.

W. H. Noblet has succeeded C. F. Cloninger as superintendent of the Ranlo Mfg. Co. plant, at Ranlo, N. C.

L. W. Conover has succeeded Ed Frick as secretary and treasurer of the Seaboard Silk Mills, Elberton, Ga.

F. H. Seymour has been promoted to master mechanic at Santee Mills, Orangeburg, S. C.

Lester Yancey is acting as superintendent of the New City Mills, Newton, N. C., in place of the late M. D. Sides.

J. W. Patterson, superintendent of Hannah Pickett Mills No. 1, Rockingham, N. C., is now filling a similar position with Mill No. 2.

B. B. Howard has been promoted from superintendent to manager of the Woolen Mill of Marshall Field & Co., Spray, N. C.

J. T. Hunter has succeeded C. B. Williams as superintendent of the Woolen Mill of Marshall Field & Co., Spray, N. C.

W. B. Holt has accepted the position of superintendent of the Perfection Mills, Inc., formerly the Weldon Mfg. Co., Weldon, N. C.

J. R. Durham has succeeded H. C. Webb as superintendent of the Hanes Dyeing & Finishing Co., Winston-Salem, N. C.

J. H. Richardson has succeeded E. S. Tillinghast as superintendent of the bleachery of the Russell Mfg. Co., Alexander City, Ala.

W. H. Beaver has succeeded J. Broadus Williams as superintendent of the Aponaug Mfg. Co., Koscuisko, Miss.

J. B. Williams has succeeded J. R. Brown as superintendent of the J. W. Sanders Cotton Mill No. 3, at Meridian, Miss.

J. E. Pepper has been promoted to the position of card room overseer at Borden Mills, Kingsport, Tenn.

W. A. Underwood has succeeded A. L. Briles as superintendent of the Sapona Cotton Mills, Inc., Cedar Falls, N. C.

Weston L. Taylor, formerly superintendent of the Globe Mills, Mt. Holly, N. C., is now superintendent of the Sellers Mfg. Co., Saxapahaw, N. C.

Tom Whitesides, formerly overseer of spinning at the Woodlawn Mill, Mt. Holly, N. C., is now superintendent of the Globe Mill, of the same place.

"Jake" Simpson, formerly overseer of weaving at Santee Mills, Orangeburg, S. C., is now representing Stoghill & Co., with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga.

C. L. Smith, formerly at Clinton, S. C., is now overseer of carding and spinning at the Santee Mills, Bamberg, S. C.

Murray Moore, formerly with the Pepperell Mfg. Co., Opelika, Ala., is now overseer of spinning at the Swift Mfg. Co., Columbus, Ga.

Claud B. Williams, formerly with Marshall Field & Co., Spray, N. C., is now superintendent of the Borden Mills, Kingsport, Tenn.

J. H. Nichols, who has been overseer of spinning at the Ottaray and Monarch Mills, Union, S. C., for the past 20 years, has resigned.

Guy W. Fortune, of the Cleveland Cloth Mlls, Shelby, N. C., has been elected chairman of the Blue Ridge Safety Council for 1940.

Smith Crow, formerly superintendent of Drayton Mills, Spartanburg, S. C., has been named general superintendent of that mill.

W. C. Deming has become assistant superintendent of the plant of Schwarzenback-Huber Co., at Front Royal, Va.

G. C. Truslow has been named superintendent of the Suiting Mill of Marshall Field & Co., Spray, N .C., succeeding Claud B. Williams. Mr. Truslow is also superintendent of the Blanket and Sheeting Mills at Draper.

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J. W. Schwab has succeeded Homer Loring as president of the Clearwater Mfg. Co., and the Seminole Mills, Clearwater, S. C.

J. E. Chapman is now assistant secretary as well as assistant treasurer of the Alabama Mills, Inc., of Birmingham, and other points.

C. E. Rankin has succeeded J. B. Duval as cotton buyer for the Alabama Mills, Inc., of Birmingham, and other points.

H. F. Wynn is now superintendent and J. R. Newell, assistant superintendent of the Mandeville Mills, Carrollton, Ga.

F. F. Ritch has succeeded C. L. Lineberger as superintendent of the Osceola Mill of Textiles, Inc., Gastonia, N. C.

Geo. W. Hall, Jr., president of the Hickory (N. C.) Dyeing & Winding Co., is now also acting as superintendent.

John F. Yare, formerly superintendent of the Virginia Woolen Co., Winchester, Va., is now filling a similar position with the Winchester Woolen Co.

G. G. Simmons has been named superintendent of Drayton Mills, Spartanburg, S. C., succeeding Smith Crow, who was elevated to the general superintendency. Mr. Simmons was formerly assistant superintendent.

CLINTON STARCHES
FOR ALL
TEXTILE PURPOSES
Manufactured by
Clinton Company
CLINTON, IOWA
QUALITY SERVICE

J. Frank Sentell has resigned as superintendent of Borden Mills, Kingsport, Tenn.

R. L. Moore, formerly of Maiden, N. C., is now superintendent of the Patterson (N. C.) Cotton Mills.

Marshall P. Orr, president and treasurer of Orr Cotton Mills, Anderson, S. C., has been ill for some time.

M. M. Taylor has been transferred from superintendent of the Lower Mill to a similar posititon at the Upper Mill of the Kendall Co., Pelzer, S. C.

Claud A. Mast, formerly superintendent of the Bonham (Tex.) Cotton Mills, has become manager and superintendent of the Brenham (Tex.) Cotton Mills.

N. Stoddard, of Allentown, Pa., has accepted the position of superintendent of the Georgetown Silk Co., Durham, N. C.

W. H. Shumate, formerly with Leaksville Woolen Mills, Spray, N. C., is now superintendent of the Cutter Mfg. Co., Rock Hill, S. C., succeeding C. J. Ashmore.

A. C. Link has been appointed superintendent of the Stark Mills, Hogansville, Ga., unit of the U. S. Rubber Co.

L. D. Swearingen is appointed technical supervisor in the Winnsboro (S. C.) Mills, unit of the U. S. Rubber Co.

Amos C. Johnstone has succeeded his father, the late Gordon Johnstone, as superintendent of the Priscilla plant of Textiles, Inc., Ranlo, N. C.

George M. Wright, president of Republic Cotton Mills, Great Falls, S. C., has been elected a director of Textile Hall, Greenville, S. C., to replace Thomas M. Marchant.

Walter S. Montgomery, president of Spartan and Startex Mills, and treasurer of the Gaffney Mfg. Co., has been elected a director of the Spartanburg, S. C., County Fair.

S. R. Greene, formerly of Union Mills, Monroe, N. C., and Gem Yarn Mill, Cornelius, N. C., has accepted a position as general superintendent of Algodon Mfg. Co., Bessemer City, N. C.

C. B. Williams, formerly superintendent of the Suiting Mill of Marshall Field & Co., Spray, N. C., has accepted a position as superintendent of the Borden Mills, Kingsport, Tenn.

For Henry Gaede, Southern representative for the Laurel Soap Mfg. Co., Christmas this year was an anti-climax. The Big Event for Mr. Gaede was the arrival of a fine son just a few days ahead of Santa Claus. The name, of course, is Henry Gaede, Jr.

Raymond T. Clarke, of Anderson, S. C., with the textile sales division of National Starch Products, Inc., has been transferred from New England to the Greenville, S. C., area. He is a graduate of Clemson College with a master's degree from N. C. State College.

Walter T. Jenkins, who has been with the Rock Hill Printing & Finishing Co., Rock Hill, S. C., since its inception as manager of the plant, has been elected vice-president of the company.

S. H. Sherman, formerly with Winnsboro (S. C.) Mills, has been transferred and placed in charge of process development in the tire cord development department of the U. S. Rubber Co., Hogansville, Ga.

Simpson J. Adams, formerly superintendent of the Radford (Va.) Weaving Co., will be superintendent of the new mill of the Carter Fabrics Corp., now being erected at South Boston, Va.

C. T. Sutherland, formerly superintendent of the Georgetown Silk Co., Durham, N. C., is now filling a similar position with the Cetwick Silk Mills, Asheboro, N. C.

M. A. Kirkland, formerly superintendent of the Stark Mills, Hogansville, Ga., has been transferred to the superintendency of the Winnsboro Mills, Winnsboro, S. C. Both of these plants are part of the U. S. Rubber Co.

B. B. Gossett, president of the Chadwick-Hoskins Mills in North Carolina and the Gossett Mills in South Carolina, was a speaker at the presentation of the Jacobs Trophy for the South's outstanding football blocking backs, at Presbyterian College, Clinton, S. C.

I. Lewin, who is general superintendent of the Cleveland Cloth Mills, Shelby, N. C., and the Carter Fabrics Corp., Greensboro, N. C., will also have supervision of the new plant of the Carter Fabrics Corp. at South Boston, Va.

## P. A. Gwaltney Joins Plymouth Mfg. Co.

McColl, S. C.—The Plymouth Mfg. Co., Inc., which was recently chartered and which will engage in the manufacture and sale of cotton, cotton waste, wool, silk, etc., will have P. A. Gwaltney, formerly president of the Marlboro Cotton Mills, as one of the officials. Mr. Gwaltney has just resigned his position with the Marlboro Mills, which are located here and at Bennettsville, S. C., to become associated with the new mill. This new industry has been capitalized with $5,000 capital stock. The officers are Edwin E. Lindgren, president; David H. Jackson, secretary, and John E. Cosgrove, treasurer.

## "Notes On Exsize," By Pabst Sales Co.

"Notes On Exsize" is a recent publication by Pabst Sales Co., 221 N. La Salle St., Chicago, in which they not only give a very clear presentation of the properties and uses of Exsize, their de-sizing agent, together with illustrative chart to show common uses in cotton and rayon finishing, but also explain briefly the uses of sizing agents, describe the necessity for desizing, the textile processes through which the yarn passes, etc.

This pamphlet briefly describes the various methods of handling warp threads of the various textile fibers under such headings as Slashing, Weaving, Sewing, Singeing, Desizing, Grey Souring, Kier Boiling, Bleaching, White

Sour, Open-Width Boil Out, Desizing for Sanforizing, and Jig Desizing.

The various properties of Exsize are then outlined, with the methods of using the product under headings of Preparation of Bath, Squeeze, Standing, Rinsing, Mercerizing, Dyeing and Printing, Refinishing, and Equipment.

### L. R. Unruh Joins Arabol Mfg. Co.

L. R. Unruh has been appointed to the Southern sales staff of the Arabol Mfg. Co., of New York City, and will represent this concern in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Mr. Unruh has sold to the textile industries for about 25 years and is widely known throughout the South. He will continue to make Charlotte his headquarters.

### State College Textile Meeting

On Friday night, January 12th, the N. C. State College alumni of Charlotte and nearby territory will hold a "Textile Meeting" at the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce. The meeting hour will be 7 P. M.

The meeting is for the purpose of honoring Dean Thomas Nelson, of the Textile School at N. C. State College, Raleigh, N. C., and his staff, and a special effort will be made to secure the presence of most of the outstanding textile graduates. Dean Nelson will make an address in which he will describe the new textile school building and outline the future of textile education.

W. A. Kennedy, of the W. A. Kennedy Corp., of Charlotte is chairman of the arrangements committee.

## OBITUARY

### GORDON A. JOHNSTONE

Gastonia, N. C.—Gordon A. Johnstone, 67, general manager of the Priscilla unit of Textiles, Inc., and for many years a leading textile executives in this section, died at his home in Fairmont Park December 15th follow an illness of a week.

Mr. Johnstone, a former president of the Southern Textile Association, was educated in the public schools of Canada and Boston University. In 1890 he accepted a position with the Cochrane Mfg. Co., first with their plant at Dedham, Mass., and later was agent of their plant at Danielson, Conn. In 1912 he went to Atlanta as agent of the Fulton Bag & Cotton Mill, where he remained until 1920, when he went to Winnsboro, S. C., as general manager of the Winnsboro Mills. In 1927 he came from Winnsboro to Gastonia as resident agent for Manville-Jenckes Co., owners of the Loray Mill, now the Firestone Cotton Mills. After two years there he went with Textiles, Inc., as manager of the Priscilla plant, a position he held at the time of his death.

### JOHN F. G. MILLER

John F. G. Miller, vice-president of B. F. Sturtevant Co., Hyde Park, Boston, Mass., 62 years of age, died suddenly on December 9th of a heart attack at his home in Brookline, Mass.

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*Synthetic Fibres and Admixtures*

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**TEXTILE BULLETIN**

Member of
Audit Bureau of Circulations and Associated Business Papers, Inc.
Published Semi-Monthly By

**CLARK PUBLISHING COMPANY**
**Offices: 218 W. Morehead St., Charlotte, N. C.**
**Eastern Address: P. O. Box 133, Providence, R. I.**

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|---|---|
| David Clark | President and Managing Editor |
| Junius M. Smith | Vice-President and Business Manager |
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Contributions on subjects pertaining to cotton, its manufacture and distribution, are requested. Contributed articles do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publishers. Items pertaining to new mills, extensions, etc., are solicited.

## Power and Engineering Show

We have recently announced, in the daily press, a SOUTHERN POWER AND ENGINEERING SHOW to be held in the Armory Auditorium at Charlotte October 8th to 12th, 1940.

The show will be in no sense a competitor of the Southern Textile Exposition of Greenville, S. C. It will be staged every two years and in those years when there is no exposition at Greenville.

Textile machinery and equipment will not be shown at the Southern Power and Engineering Show. It is expected that exhibits will be limited to engines, boilers, generators, motors, pumps, blowers, lathes, gear cutters, machine tools, anti-friction bearings, belting, chain drives, and similar equipment. Space will be taken by manufacturers of oils and other lubricants and by manufacturers of air conditioning equipment.

In general the Southern Power and Engineering Show will display those things in which master mechanics and machinists of cotton mills, knitting mills, tobacco factories, furniture factories and other manufacturing establishments are interested. It will present the latest developments in power plant and machine shop equipment.

We have reason to believe that all space will be taken early in the year and that the Southern Power and Engineering Show will be well attended.

## NLRB Exposure

Several times we have asserted that the National Labor Relations Board was the most contemptible political organization which has existed since our government was formed, and although the Congressional investigation of that organization has extended over a very few days, our statements have been fully justified.

A memorandum showed that David Dubinsky, president of the CIO Ladies' Garment Workers, protested against a decision and phoned "That isn't what we pay our money for."

There was testimony that Edwin S. Smith, a member of the Board, tried to assist the CIO boycott of the Berkshire Knitting Mills by writing to a large Boston department store and suggesting that they refrain from purchasing Berkshire hosiery.

There was also testimony which stated that a trial examiner who was hearing evidence in a case at Cincinnati, Ohio, conferred regularly with the prosecuting attorney and decided, in advance, what questions should be asked and what rulings would be made.

The Congressional Committee will meet early in January and continue the investigation.

Although it has no connection with the hearing, it is interesting to note that when the Russian Embassy gave a swanky reception on November 7th, only two Government officials of consequence attended and one of them was Edwin S. Smith, of the National Labor Relations Board.

## Reluctant Reconciliation

We note with interest the following newspaper dispatch:

> Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—President Roosevelt was described by usually well-informed officials as reconciled to a $3,000,000,000 deficit in the next Federal budget in spite of an announced desire to limit it to $2,000,000,000.

It seems that President Roosevelt did not object to spending $2,000,000,000 more than can be raised through taxes, but thought that a $3,000,000,000 deficit was rather much for an election year.

Compare Franklin D. Roosevelt's "reluctant reconciliation" with his campaign statement of 1932, which said:

> If a nation, like a spendthrift, throws discretion to the winds, is willing to make no sacrifice at all in spending, extends its taxing to the limit of the people's power to pay and continues to pile up deficits, it is on the road to bankruptcy.
>
> The first and most important and necessitous step in balancing our Federal budget is to reduce expenses.

## Christmas Savings Clubs

Just before Christmas, there were numerous newspaper stories, especially in the Greenville-Spartanburg section, of large amounts being paid to textile mill employees as the result of Christmas Savings Clubs which operated during the year.

Employees of the Startex Mills, at Tucapau, S. C., received $38,000, while those of the Spartan Mills, of Spartanburg, divided $25,500.

The combined savings of the Mills Mill at Woodruff, S. C., and the Riverdale Mills at Enoree, S. C., amounted to $50,000.

Employees of the Anderson Cotton Mills, Anderson, S. C., received about $20,000, with one employee receiving $137.67.

Among textile plants at Greenville, S. C., sponsoring Christmas Savings Club were the Brandon, Poe, and Union Bleachery.

At the beginning of each year employees designate a certain part of their weekly pay check, varying from 50 cents to $5 to be saved for them by mill officials and to their savings is added 2 per cent interest.

These Christmas Savings Clubs not only encourage thrift but provide funds for Christmas time.

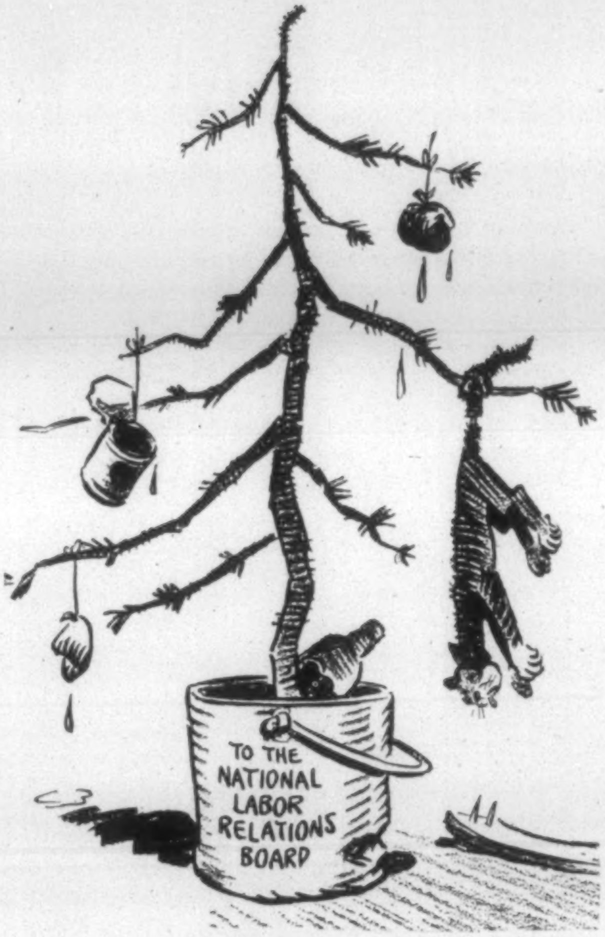
## Flu Would Be Expensive

With most mills well supplied with orders, a flu epidemic, even of a mild nature, might curtail production and prevent profitable operations.

During the most severe flu epidemic ever known in this section, that of about twenty years ago, many mills found production severely curtailed and in some cases entirely suspended by reason of large numbers of employees being ill at home and unable to work.

Several mills, including one very large South Carolina mill, passed through the epidemic with very few employees ill and very small loss of production due to the fact that they constantly fed into the air a distillate of pine known as "Pinesol," manufactured by Jos. C. Shepard, Wilmington, N. C. Most of them placed it in the water which fed the humidifiers while others sprinkled it around the walls and corners with watering pots. "Pinesol" has a pleasant odor and is so harmless that in diluted form it can be used as a nasal spray.

The object of this editorial is not to sell "Pinesol" but to place before the mills information which, in case the present flu epidemic increases, may enable them to prevent employees' illness and loss of production.


TO THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

**Their Christmas Tree**

(Reprint from NEA cartoon by Herglock)

## Another Unprofitable Strike

This fall the automobile workers in the Chrysler plant were induced, by CIO leaders, to enter upon a strike.

After a prolonged period of idleness they went back to work with nothing gained except the 3 cents per hour increase which had been offered them before they went out.

Each employee must now work 1,050 days, or three years and four months, before the wage increase which they did receive, and which was available anyhow, will make up the loss in wages during the strike.

Economists estimate that the strike cost the workers, the company and merchants $53,000,000.

The only persons who did not lose were the CIO organizers who drew full pay and expenses during the entire period of the strike.

This story is very similar to that of the Pacific Mills at Columbia where it is estimated that a strike cost the employees $240,000 with nothing gained.

# Mill News

Talladega, Ala.—The small yarn mill of the Planters Chemical & Oil Co. has been dismantled and the machinery sold.

Landis, N. C.—The Corriher Mills Co. will at an early date make an increase in their number of spindles.

Waxahachie, Tex.—The Waxahachie Cotton Mills have been dismantled and will not be again placed in operation.

Sand Springs, Okla.—Half a million dollar expansion program for 1940 was announced for the Sand Surings Textile Mills, Inc., plant operating under the lease by the Commander Mills, Inc., E. M. Monsell, president, states.

Jacksonville, Ala.—Profile Cotton Mills have begun operations again after being closed since early in the year. Thirty men and women were employed at the opening and their number will be increased as rapidly as stock can be prepared. T. L. Edwards is superintendent.

Lincolnton, N. C.—The Crown Converting Co., of this place, have leased the buildings of the former Elm Grove Cotton Mills and are moving their equipment into them. It is understood that they will add considerable equipment, including skein mercerizing.

Lincolnton, N. C.—Plans are reported to be under way here for the resumption of operations at the old Wampum Spinning Mills. It is reported that a corporation has been formed to operate this mill and that the total spindles will be 15,000. It is stated that the new mill will employ approximately 150 operatives, if the present plans materialize.

Eldorado, Tex.—Construction work is going forward on a building to house Eldorado's newest enterprise, the Texas Woolen Mills, which will be equipped to carry on carding, spinning and weaving. The new plant will be equipped to manufacture high-grade wool blankets, also ordinary camp and army styles, according to company officials. Woolen suiting, yarn and woolen batting will also be made by Texas Woolen Mills, it was stated.

Pell City, Ala.—The modernization program of the Avondale Mills unit at Pell City is about completed, according to reports. This program included the complete rearranging of the opening room and installation of a Centrif-Air Machine; the pickers equipped with new synchronizers and evener motions, and Gyrators; the drawing has been replaced with modern equipment; long draft has been added to roving frames; third cylinders have been added to the slashers; and an addition to the cloth room is to house new shears, inspection tables, etc., and a new sanforizer. New X Model Draper Looms have been installed in the weave room.

Kingsport, Tenn.—Borden Mills are going to install long draft equipment of 88 warp frames.

LaGrange, Ga.—Callaway Mills will add a one-story addition to the bleachery in Elm City.

Newry, S. C.—New machinery expected to speed up production is being installed in the spinning room of the Courtenay Manufacturing plant at Newry. Thirty-six new spinning frames, including 12,672 spindles, are to replace 72 old frames.

Chester, S. C.—The new steam generator for the Eureka unit of Springs Cotton Mills here has gotten into operations, but the new high pressure turbine has not been completely installed as yet.

Columbus, Ga.—Plans for the construction of a $50,000 gymnasium and recreation center at Bibb City were discussed by Scott Russell, of the Bibb Mfg. Co., Macon, before local employees recently.

Mr. Russell said that while the plan had not been definitely accepted, he expects that it will be authorized and that a gym to cost between $50,000 and $60,000 will be erected.

Griffin, Ga.—At the Georgia-Kincaid Mills here, a new towel-yarn dyeing mill, which is of the most modern type, is getting into production. This new unit will do the work of bleaching and dyeing of all yarns, including beams, packages and roving, which are used for the towels which are manufactured by the units of the Georgia-Kincaid Mill. The new unit is located at Unit No. 1, which it adjoins. This unit weaves the major portion of the colored yarns produced by the company.

Dallas, N. C.—S. J. Beauchamp, superintendent of the Morrowebb Cotton Mills, announces that outside painting and other improvements have begun at the mills. The warehouses, storage and buildings are being painted inside and out. This mill was recently electrified. As has been the policy of most mills for the past few years to sell their dwellings, preferably to the operatives, the Moroweb Cotton Mills have sold all real estate with the exception of a few pieces.

Concord, N. C.—A new powdered coal boiler, 60,000 pounds pressure, is to be installed in Plant 6, Cannon Mills, at Concord, according to J. E. Sirrine & Co., consulting and designing engineers of Greenville, S. C., who gave the contract to Combustion Engineering Co., New York. The new boiler is to furnish steam for heating and processing at the Concord mill and will alternate with a similar boiler of 45,000 pounds pressure. Plant 6 is one of the group of mills operated by the manufacturers of sheets and towels.

# Mill News

Thomasville, N. C.—Jewell Cotton Mills have installed six new combers to replace one and one-half dozen of the old type.

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Alabama City, Ala.—Work has been going forward at the Dwight Mfg. Co. on the installation of approximately 400 looms which will replace those which have become obsolete.

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Anderson, S. C.—Appleton Co. has installed 200 of the scheduled 1,700 Model X looms in its weaving department. This is part of the extended modernization program.

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Fries, Va.—Washington Mills unit here has revamped its entire lighting system and has installed 40 Whitin interdraft roving machines and an Abington card-cleaning outfit and a Bahnson airchange unit in the weave room.

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Graniteville, S. C.—An additional contract for a building to house apron conveyor equipment of the new three-story extension of the Gregg Dyeing Co. has been awarded to Daniel Construction Co., of Anderson.

The new extension, designed by J. E. Sirrine & Co., is 90 by 165 feet, three stories high, has been completed by Daniel Construction Co. and will be ready for production January 1st. Equipment is now being installed. Grinnell Co. has the contract for the process and heating piping.

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Newton, N. C.—Reports that Burlington Mills is negotiating for the purchase of the Mid-State Cloth Mills, Newton, associated with the Colonial Mills, Inc., organization, have basis in fact, it is learned.

There have been reports from time to time that Colonial sought to dispose of the Mid-State Cloth Mills and that there were several interested parties. Recent developments, say the rumors, is that Burlington Mills is seeking to purchase the mills and that arrangements have been virtually consummated. It is thought here a statement may be forthcoming by the first of the year.

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Huntsville, Ala.—A good deal of the work on the extensive modernization program which has been under way at the Dallas Mfg. Co. has been completed, and the other is going forward as rapidly as possible. The work has been completed on the installation of 56 new Saco-Lowell long draft spinning frames, 3½-inch gauge, ¼-inch ring, with 276 spindles to each frame. A number of modern construction features are contained in these new frames. The ring rails, roller beams and spindle rails are of steel, reducing the weight of the frame and providing greater strength. Work has also been completed on equipping the frames which were retained with Saco-Lowell long draft system, each being equipped with individual motor drive and V-belt, in a general electrification program for the entire mill.

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High Point, N. C.—At a cost of $15,000, the Hillcrest unit of the Burlington Mills Co. has under construction an addition which will greatly increase warehouse facilites. The construction work is in charge of Charles W. Angle, Inc., of Greensboro, N. C., and will measure 100 by 150 feet.

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Goldville, S. C.—The Joanna Cotton Mills have had quite an extensive modernization program under way, which has enabled the company to add approximately 150 additional operatives to the payroll and increase the production of the mills approximately 30 per cent. This program has been about completed. Included in the new machinery set-up Barber-Colman automatic spooling and warping equipment, and new 40-inch and 46-inch X Model Draper looms were installed to replace the old E Model looms in the weave room. The latest model Parks & Woolson shearing and brushing machines have been installed in the cloth room. The modern Saco-Lowell opening equipment, one process pickers with blending reserves, and long draft roving and spinning have been installed. The Joanna Cotton Mills now maintain approximately 90,000 spindles on long draft. Parks-Cramer cleaners have been installed over the spinning frames, and the humidifying system has been revamped and augmented by use of Bahnson humidifiers.

Some time ago a three-story addition, measuring approximately 60,000 square feet, was constructed, which has enabled the company to rearrange the equipment and make it more convenient.

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Greensboro, N. C.—Resident Superior Court Judge H. Hoyle Sink has reopened the matter of Pomona Mills, Inc., a concern dissolved on February 26, 1936, following liquidation of its assets, by appointing George W. Mountcastle, Lexington business man, as receiver to prosecute a claim for the refund of over $182,000 of processing and floor stock taxes said to have been paid the Federal Government under the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

The claim was based upon the ground that the government agency was held unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in the Butler case, decided January 6, 1936.

The receivership was created by Judge Sink upon petition of Pomona Mfg. Co., now operating the old Pomona Mills, Inc., and owner of the corporation's remaining assets. Petition was filed by the company as a creditor of the dissolved corporation.

Amount of the claims, as set forth in the petition, totals $182,702.34.

The order signed by Judge Sink provides that any and all sums which may be realized by filing of refund claims with the government, shall be paid over to Pomona Mfg. Co., after deduction of necessary expenses of present receivership. Mr. Mountcastle furnished a nominal bond of $1,000 for faithful performance of his duties as receiver.

# MASTER MECHANICS' SECTION

# Southern Mechanics Meet and Talk Shop

THE Southern Master Mechanics' Division of the Southern Textile Association held its Fall meeting at the Community House of the Drayton Mills, Spartanburg, S. C., on the morning of November 16th, with Fred Tindall, master mechanic at Inman Mills, Inman, S. C., chairman of the division, presiding.

The first thing on the program was a talk by Smith Crow, general superintendent of the Drayton Mills, on the relationship of the machine shop and the master mechanic to the rest of the mill. A partial report of this talk follows:

## The Relationship Between the Shop and the Rest of the Mill

In deciding just what the relationship between the shop and the rest of the plant should be it seems to me that the first thing to consider is the reason for having a shop. When that question is answered it seems that the problem of the proper relationship will also be solved, and we will at least have something to work toward.

The first reason for having a shop in a textile mill is to expedite repair jobs with the least possible loss of production to the rest of the plant; that is the primary reason for the existence of the machine shop, and it seems to me that it establishes a very definite relationship there.

The second reason for a shop is to make new parts such as gears, studs, shafts, etc., so that the mill will be able to make quick changeovers on the product with the least possible loss of time and production and with the least possible cost.

Generally, the shop and the rest of the plant seem to be bound together in about all of their functions in that the shop is the maintenance department for the entire plant, and as such is responsible for the continual and satisfactory mechanical operations of the entire plant. The machine shop might be compared with the maintenance department of the highway department of any State. We all know that if the maintenance crews do not keep constantly on the alert to keep the roads in condition they would soon be too bad to travel over, and the tremendous investment involved would be for nothing. In the same manner the machine shop must keep constantly on the alert to keep the mill in repair in order to protect the large investment there.

It is essential to a mill to maintain at all times a good and well equipped machine shop, one that can turn out gears and machine parts satisfactory for repair operations both in routine matters and in unusual things that might come up from time to time. It is almost impossible for the average mill to maintain at all times a complete set of repair parts for all of its machines, and the shop must be prepared to turn out almost any conceivable part that might hold up on the productive workings of the mill. These are times when there might be a considerable loss of production in the mill if it were necessary to order parts from the machinery manufacturer, whereas if the shop has blanks, etc., it can turn out a job and get the machine back into production in a comparatively short time.

Where a mill manufactures its own power, the power plant is the heart of the entire plant, and should be treated as such. Many mills are electrified and do not manufacture their own power, but even so, the wiring, switches, motors, etc., must be rigidly controlled and maintained in order to keep the plant in operation, and it is the duty and responsibility of the master mechanic and engineer to see that this is done.

The shop can do a wonderful work for a mill by setting a good example for the rest of the maintenance men to follow. If the shop always does good repair work, properly finishing all work, and doing a neat and accurate work, the other departments of the mill are likely to follow suit. In other words, the more neat, accurate and precise the parts come out of the machine shop (weldings, renecking rolls, gears cut from blanks, screens repaired, etc.) the more likely the section men and fixers throughout the mill will be to want to do a good job with their handling of these parts, and the better the mechanical condition of the mill can be maintained. The master mechanic should insist on his machinists and other workers turning out the best possible job at all times.

In its capacity as a maintenance department, the machine shop and the master mechanic may help the mill a great deal by general engineering work throughout the entire plant, by keeping eyes always open to ways and means of reducing costs of operations throughout the mill and village. A mill will suffer losses through an accumulation of small things that might go unnoticed to the average person but which might be easily seen by a trained machinist or engineer. Such things as leaky steam lines, water lines, poor driving arrangements, faulty construction, heating systems poorly installed, slasher room lines, steam traps, etc., may run into considerable expense to the mill, and should be inspected frequently by someone in the mechanical department who is qualified to properly do the job.

It is most important that the machine shop should always do a repair job promptly or explain to the overseer of the department concerned just why the job cannot be done just at that time. This one little thing will go a long way toward maintaining proper feeling and co-operation between the shop and the various departments and will prevent much friction that might otherwise develop. Most of the time the overseer will be reasonable if he knows why his work must wait, but if there is a delay without any reason apparent to him he is likely to feel badly about it and hold some resentment. If an important machine is likely to be held out of production for any length of time the superintendent should know about it.

In the matter of co-operation between the machine shop and the rest of the mill, I believe the situation is generally better than it has ever been. It has been becomingly increasingly important to keep the mill operating at top efficiency, and all departments are realizing more and more just how important the machine shop is to their production records.

During the past several years safety conferences have been organized throughout the country, and I understand that since the South Carolina Safety Conference was started accidents in the State's textile mills have been reduced about 30 per cent. The master mechanic has been trained to be observant of machinery and its operation, and should be one of the best men in the plant to see opportunity for improvement of conditions from a safety angle, and to be able to do something about it.

Following the talk by Mr. Crow, the mechanics entered into a general discussion of mill problems, and in line with Mr. Crow's talk, R. F. Nichols, plant engineer at Newberry Cotton Mills, Newberry, S. C., said that the shop should always be as prompt as was humanly possible in all of its dealings with the rest of the mill. He stressed the fact that it was frequently necessary for the master mechanic to make decisions that were not in line with the wishes of a particular overseer or department head, but that the mechanic was responsible for the production of the mill as a whole, and had to consider each job in that light, rather than the desires of a particular person or department. In other words, the mechanic must decide what is best for the welfare of the mill as a whole, and must arrange his work in that order. He mentioned the possibility of more co-operation coming from each department of the mill, rather than putting all of the burden of this on the master mechanic, because the mechanic has to listen to all of the troubles throughout the entire organization, including the village.

L. W. Misenheimer, plant engineer at the Southern Bleachery & Print Works, Taylors, S. C., who has been in the mill business for 39 years, then stated that in his experience the younger men were now having an easier time as master mechanics than the old-timers had in days gone by. He said that not only is there better co-operation between the overseers an dthe mechanics, but that the management at the present time were mostly better trained men who realize that the master mechanic has an important job and that his department has a great deal of bearing on the continued successful operation of any mill. There was a time when the superintendent had to O. K. everything almost, which left the mechanic's hands tied, and while the situation is much better now, if the mechanic had more authority to decide things for himself and then carry them out, he would be of more value to the mill. He said that it was only natural that the average superintendent has not had sufficient engineering training to decide many mechanical problems that come up around the mill, and since the only person usually who is qualified to make these decisions is the mechanic or engineer he is the logical one to have the authority to make the decisions.

Mr. Misenheimer brought out an illustration of an incident that had happened to him once when he had great difficulty in getting the management to agree to buy him a machine that would cost $98.00. Since the management wanted to hold off on the purchase, Mr. Misenheimer had the machine sent to the mill, and used it before saying anything about it. The machine in question was to clean scale out of 12 boilers in two plants, and when the accumulation of scale that the machine got out of the boilers was shown to the management and the amount of savings on coal explained they no longer objected to the purchase. He used this to illustrate his contention that the master mechanic should be able to show results for his expenditures and that if the management knew how much savings could be made by the master mechanic they would be likely to give him more authority and allow him more leeway in making purchases.

He also brought out the point that frequently the master mechanic can spend his time profitably just walking through the plant looking for ways and means to save money or to make short cuts on production efficiency.

Fred Tindall then mentioned the fact that conditions at the individual mill frequently must determine which job is the most important one in case of a breakdown, as might be the case in the card room where the mill was out of balance and needed more carding equipment to furnish sufficient production. In a case of this kind it would be most important to get the card room machinery back into production ahead of everything else, because even under full operating efficiency this department would be crowded to make production.

E. P. McWhirter brought up the question as to what the master mechanics were doing to keep up their jobs in the face of the 42-hour law now in effect, particularly in cases where the plant is operating three shifts. He said he had heard of instances where the men were sent out for two or three hours during the day in order to give them time to work on week-ends without penalty.

Editor's Note—The mechanical department of the average mill is far and above the most difficult to operate on any definite schedule, and it is likely that this item is going to be very important from a standpoint of costs in the future. When a breakdown occurs anywhere in the mill it is the responsibility of this department to get the machinery back into production as soon as the job can be done and overtime has not been a vitally important problem in the past. However, with time and a half time for overtime, emergency work that requires a great deal of extra time, particularly on week-ends when most of the men have made their regular time, the costs for this work will be increased considerably. Heretofore it has frequently been possible to reduce the hours worked in the following week in order to compensate for this overtime, but that is no longer possible, under existing laws.

Mr. Misenheimer said that since beginning operations on 40 hours per week per man he had changed the hours when his men reported for work, with some coming in at 7 in the morning, some at 9 and some at 2 in the afternoon, thus giving him some men on the job at all times.

E. E. Edmiston, master mechanic of the Mooresville Cotton Mills, Mooresville, N. C., stated that his shop crew was on a double shift basis, with the hours so arranged that the men had two hours on Saturday without overtime work. He added that he had added another man on the power house crew, and had not tried the system of sending his men out for short periods during the week.

### Noisy Water Feed Line

Mr. Tindall then asked for some information regarding a water feed line that was noisy. The line is one of two feeding into two 250-pound Sterling boilers, operating from the same pump, and while one of the lines is quiet, the other one is definitely noisy.

P. D. Hatley, master mechanic at the Mollohon plant of the Kendall Co., Newberry, S. C., suggested that the trouble might be caused by the feed line being on a grade, since that would cause the noise trouble at times, but Mr. Tindall said they were on a level.

One of the other mechanics suggested that the addition of an air chamber on the other end of the feed line would probably cure the trouble.

### Glass Insulation Wound Motors

Mr. Misenheimer asked if any of the mechanics present had tried any of the new glass insulated winding on motors, and stated that he had had some rewound with the glass insulated windings and had found that they ran cooler.

Mr. Edmiston had also had some rewound with this insulation, and had found them very satisfactory, and asked Channing Brown, of Duke Power Co., if they had had any experience with them. Mr. Brown said that Duke Power Co. had not tried any of these motors yet, and wondered if they would not likely be used for specific purposes where service was very difficult for some time yet, due to the extra cost of the winding.

Note: At a meeting of master mechanics last spring, several of the mechanics had had some of this winding done, and were well pleased with it, but in every case the motors were operating under conditions where they were subject to extreme temperatures, acid conditions, oil spatter, or some special condition where the ordinary windings would not operate satisfactorily. It is understood that this type of winding is impervious to oil, acid, or any of the ordinary corrosive materials that attack regulation windings.

The next question for discussion was brought up by Mr. Tindall, who asked what was the best viscosity of oil to use in waste packed bearings. The general concensus of opinion was that an oil of about 200 viscosity would best serve this purpose, an engine oil.

### Training Mechanics for Future

Entering then into a discussion of the training of future machinists and mechanics, it was generally decided that the smaller mills were definitely handicapped in the matter of training men for such jobs, because they were not usually allowed to keep more than one apprentice on the job and frequently not any. The master mechanic from one very large organization stated that he felt that for best results on this point it was necessary to bring a man up in the organization, training him in the methods and procedures peculiar to his organization. He felt that by getting high school graduates, or boys with one or two years of college training, he could build his organization in the way he wanted his men trained, and could save the company money by keeping several apprentices at all times. In this way he could maintain at all times a dependable source of new material, and train the men for the particular jobs he felt were likely to be coming open in the future.

### Attendance At Meetings

In discussing some of the possible reasons why the attendance at the meetings for master mechanics were not better attended, it was suggested that perhaps the mechanics' jobs were so hard and so necessary that they were not able to leave them for even a day, but Mr. Nichols disagreed with this by stating that in his opinion that a mechanic who did not have his job running well enough to leave it for one day was the very man who needed the benefits of such discussion most, because he couldn't be very well organized if one day's absence would mess up the job.

Editor's Note—While it is recognized that in many cases it is impossible for the master mechanic to leave the mill on the particular day when the meetings of the Southern Textile Association are being held, it is also frequently true that the attendance and entry into the discussion at these meetings is more valuable both to the master mechanic and to his mill than the same day's work he could possibly get done in that time at the mill.

The master mechanic's job is becoming increasingly important to the mills, with the advent of more complicated machinery and more stringent operating schedules, and anything that he can learn about new methods, new machinery, etc., is sure to benefit his organization. By an exchange of ideas at these meetings, he may be able to find out in a few short hours at one of these meetings things he would have to work for weeks at to find out for himself, and it is unlikely that he can attend one of these meetings and go back to his mill without at least a few ideas that will save money for the organization he is working for. Even though some of the matters brought up for discussion may not at the time apply to him in particular, he never knows just when something of a similar nature may come up in his mill, and an idea that he got at the meeting will be sufficient guide to him to enable him to work out some problem in a fraction of the time it would take him to experiment for himself and eliminate all the kinks. We feel so strongly about this that we do not hesitate to recommend to every master mechanic that he attend at least one of these meetings and see for himself just what they are all about. It would also be beneficial if he could persuade his superintendents to come along and see what the master mechanics discuss.

Among those in attendance at the meeting were the following: C. J. Armstrong, Gossett Mills, Anderson, S. C.; L. E. Bagwell, Laurens, S. C.; R. D. Ballew, Woodside Cotton Mills, Fountain Inn, S. C.; C. B. Brown, Duke Power Co., Charlotte, N. C.; Smith Crow, Drayton Mills, Spartanburg, S. C.; E. J. Eaddy, The Textile Shop, Spartanburg, S. C.; E. E. Edmiston, Mooresville Cotton Mills, Mooresville, N. C.; P. D. Hatley, The Kendall Co., Newberry, S. C.; J. C. Hewitt, Whitney Mfg. Co., Whitney, S. C.; J. C. Haas, Drayton Mills, Spartanburg, S. C.; G. T. King, Jr., Springs Cotton Mills, Lancaster, S. C.; J. B. Lee, Alma Mill, Gaffney, S. C.; W. E. McGuinn, Gayle Plant, Springs Cotton Mills, Chester, S. C.; E. P. McWhirter, Monarch Mills, Union, S. C.; L. W. Misenheimer, Southern Bleachery & Print Works, Taylors, S. C.; A. R. Moore, Springstein Plant, Springs Cotton Mills, Chester, S. C.; R. F. Nichols, Newberry Cotton Mills, Newberry, S. C.; C. G. Seay, Drayton Mills, Spartanburg, S. C.; Woodrow Seay, Drayton Mills, Spartanburg, S. C.; F. D. Summey, Riverdale Mills, Enoree, S. C.; L. A. Sutherland, Norris Cotton Mill, Cateechee, S. C.; Fred Tindall, Inman Mill, Inman, S. C.; R. S. Vaughn, Southern Electric Service Co., Greenville, S. C.

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## West Point Mills Vote Extra Dividend

West Point, Ga.—Stockholders of the West Point Mfg. Co. voted an extra dividend of 30 cents a share following announcement that dividends totaling 90 cents a share, or 4½ per cent, were paid in the past fiscal year.

This is the 50th consecutive year the textile concern has paid dividends. The additional payment will be made January 2nd as of record of December 1st.

A year's net profit of $923,082.16 was reported. Net sales were $17,573,645.11, an increase of 12 per cent over the preceding year.

## FSCC to Buy Cotton Goods

Washington, D. C.—Cotton goods soon will be available to the low-income group through the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation's food stamp plan, Milo Perkins, president of the FSCC, revealed.

Perkins said cotton goods will be placed in six weeks to two months on the list of surplus commodities which may be purchased with FSCC food stamps. Other commodities now on the list are foods.

It was expected the cotton goods would include shirts, mattresses and other goods made exclusively of cotton.

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Care Textile Bulletin.

## Sales Under Cotton Export Program Pass 4,000,000 Bales

Washington.—Sales and deliveries of cotton and cotton products, through November 30, 1939, under the cotton export program, totaled 4,332,000 bales, the Department of Agriculture states. This total includes sales and deliveries of cotton products in the equivalent of 215,000 bales. The cotton export program, which became effective July 27, 1939, provides payments of 1½ cents per pound on exports of raw cotton, and equivalent payments on exports of cotton products.

Under the program, exporters have the option of declaring either their sales for export or their actual deliveries for export. The current total, as a result, does not include sales which have not yet been exported and which exporters have chosen to declare at the time of delivery for export.

The total quantity of cotton actually shipped out of the United States from the beginning of the 1939 marketing season, August 1st to November 30th, amounted to 2,266,000 bales, compared with 1,528,000 bales for the same period in 1938. For November, exports amounted to 623,000 bales, compared with 438,000 in November last year.

## New Celanese Unit Plans To Inaugurate Operations Jan. 1

Narrows, Va.—Peter D. Cooper, general manager of the plant erected near here by the Celanese Corp. of America, told members of the Narrows Celanese Club at a fellowship banquet here that the concern expects the new unit at Pearisbury to be in operation by January 1, 1940.

Describing operations regarding erection of plant buildings by that time as "something of a record," he gave credit to the firm's engineering department headed by S. B. Roberts, chief engineer, now residing here. Reviewing present needs in Giles County, Mr. Cooper said the concern will be ready to aid in civic betterment wherever it is possible.

## New Corrosion-Resistant Treatment Protects Parts Of Fafnir Bearing Units

The Fafnir Bearing Co., New Britain, Conn., announces a process whereby exports parts of ball bearing transmission units are being chemically treated to resist corrosion, without change in their physical properties or dimensions.

The process involves the formation of an oxide-layer which penetrates .0002" to .0003" into the surface of the metal, without changing its external dimensions. This protective layer, really a part of the metal itself, does not chip or peel, and is unaffected by temperature.

According to U. S. Navy salt-spray corrosion tests, the seals, shields and collars so treated resist corrosion ten to twenty-five times as well as untreated metal. The treatment is readily recognizable by the distinctive jet-black finish it imparts to the metal.

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# Cotton Goods Markets

New York.—The customary holiday lull in the gray goods business seems to have materialized on Worth Street, with little business or inquiry noted. However, there seems to be little concern felt about it following the satisfactory business booked during the past few weeks, and it is felt by some that perhaps a short period of slow trading will result in benefits to all concerned.

Prices have been steady, and it is believed that they will finish out the year at current prices.

Domestic mill buying of spot cotton continued active. Trade reports indicate that the unusually high rate of mill activity was fairly well maintained during the first two weeks in December. Mill consumption in November was the largest on record for that month, totaling 719,000 bales compared with 687,000 in October and 596,000 bales in November, 1938, according to the Bureau of the Census. If the rate of consumption for the first four months of the current season should be maintained consumption for 1939-40 would aggregate about 8,000,000 bales. Total consumption in 1938-39 was about 6,760,000 bales against a ten-year average (1928-37) of 6,060,000 bales. Stocks of raw cotton at domestic mills on November 30th were 1,783,000 bales or slightly larger than a year ago.

All in all, the general opinion of the market is that business during 1940 will be satisfactory in gray goods. It is to be supposed that there will be the usual ups and downs in the market, but indications point toward generally better business conditions in almost all lines of industry and it is assumed that cotton goods will also be better.

In denims, the largest producer has recently announced an increase of a half-cent a yard, to a basis of 13 cents for 2.20s, after placing considerable business at 12½ cents. The price basis in chambrays and coverts is considered stronger, with sellers holding for the quoted level of 8½ to 9 at the time of this writing for the 36-inch, 3.90 yard chambrays.

In the vat dye khaki field, the price range is broader than in some time, with so many additional sources offering these goods. The leading center quoted for delivery through March, on the basis of 15½ cents for the drills, and 16 cents for the jeans, regular finish, plain weave. Work clothing fabrics sales have also included whipcords.

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# Cotton Yarn Markets

Philadelphia.—With deliveries still holding up well, and mills operating normal schedules, new contracts for sales yarn have been slow recently. As yet there is seemingly no operating for stock, and inquiries during the past few weeks indicate that as soon as buyers and sellers can get together on prices there will be considerable forward buying again.

On the strength of the inventory situation, and increased inquiry on the part of buyers, prices for combed peeler and mercerized yarns have shown a firmer tendency. At the time of this writing an advance of a cent per pound in two-ply combed peeler yarn is the only tangible result from the recent upswing in cotton but single combed yarn and mercerized are said to be likely to follow suit soon. Too, it is reported that some of the larger plied combed yarn sources are not satisfied with an advance of only a cent.

Sources that are quoting unchanged on their freest sellers are firming up their asking prices on less active counts by adjusting their differentials. There is now little left of the relationship of last summer between one type of sale yarn and another, so far as price structure is concerned. Then it was a case of arranging the yarn rates so that the mills could break even, or at least minimize their loss. Now it is a case of getting a fair margin on the volume leaders, and then charging accordingly on numbers that are not so widely sought. The cost of cotton entering into the better grade yarns is being very strictly figured, especially within the last few weeks.

Even when they are obtaining full quotations, a good many spinners do not appear confident about taking orders freely at these prices for shipment beyond mid-winter.

With war at sea likely to become more bitter, and with possible British commandeering of Egyptian stocks of cotton that spinners in this country are in the habit of using, there may be a definite shortage of that cotton in the future.

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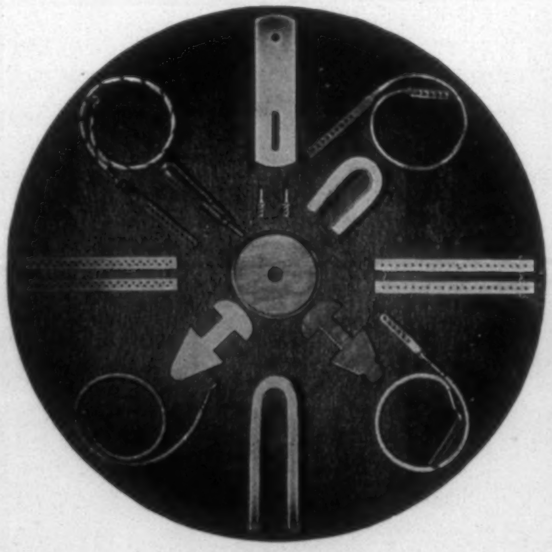


**Millbury**
**Massachusetts**

## S. C. Carders and Spinners Discuss Cut Staple, Blends, Other Problems

(*Continued from Page 9*)

Or how do you determine it? What do you think about that, Mr. Crow?

*Mr. Crow*: Mr. Chairman, that is a rather difficult question to answer and explain in a way that might be entirely understandable. I do not think there is any absolutely ironclad rule or plan that can be laid down for the various staples and deniers and blends that are being used today. The practice that we generally follow when we have to change from one staple to another or from one denier to another or from one blend to another is first of all, of course, to determine the cloth into which it is going. Then we try to make the yarn that is best suited, from the standpoint of twist, for the cloth it is going into, keeping in mind always, of course, that there has to be enough twist to make it run satisfactorily. As a rule, if we are going to put on a different staple or a different denier or blend we put on a few spindles (maybe as much as a side, but not even a whole frame) and run some tests for breaking strength. We put it in the laboratory and run a yard on the seriplane board for evenness and run such tests as we are equipped to give it for strength and for the best running, from the twist standpoint, and at the same time not forgetting the effect of the twist on the cloth to be made from the yarn. That is the method we try to follow in our plant.

*Mr. Splawn*: Has anybody else anything to say on that? Personally, I think the policy there is the same policy that applies in going to a different cotton.

*Mr. Crow*: Absolutely.

*Mr. Splawn*: For instance, if we were going from one staple to another, going to Pima cotton, for example, after being on short staple, we know it will take less twist for the long staple; and in rayon we know it takes less twist for a larger denier.

### Light Weight Paper Tubes

The next question is: "*Have any of you had any experience in spinning on the new light-weight paper tubes?*"

I understand that some mills (only a few; one in Hartsville, I think, and two or three in Georgia) are experimenting with those things. The mills are pretty well scattered. Has anybody here had any experience with them or does anybody know anything about them? Judging from the number of us here, I think if none of us want to say anything about this thing we had better go to reading upon it, because it is coming. In other words, we men who worry with vibrating spindles, unbalanced bobbins, not enough yarn in the package, etc., I believe shall have to get down to that.

### Remedy for Spindles Throwing Oil

We will go on to the next topic: "*What is the remedy for stopping spinning spindles from throwing out oil other than cutting the spindle speed?*"

What do you think about that? Can anyone suggest a remedy? Mr. Bagwell?

*R. F. Bagwell*, Supt., The D. E. Converse Co., Glendale, S. C.: Mr. Chairman, I really do not know. I should think, for the high speed we are having in this day and time, possibly we shall have to change to a heavier oil. Possibly that might be of some help. It seems that on high speeds there is great difficulty in holding that light spindle oil. I understand some mills have gotten very good results from heavier oil. Whether that is right or not I could not say.

*Mr. Splawn*: It seems logical, at any rate.

*Mr. Brannan*: Isn't it the practice of most oil men and mill men that the higher the spindle speed the thinner the spindle oil they use?

*Mt. Splawn*: I know that is what they tell us.

Is the gentleman that asked this question in the house? Of course, bad bolsters, dirty rolls, and other things will cause that. You might not think that dirty rolls will do it, but if you let the rolls and bolsters pack up with cotton that cotton is just a wick; it will pull the oil right out. Sometimes you can stop some of this trouble by cleaning the rolls and bolsters and keeping the cotton out of there. Then I have seen thousands and thousands of spindles running with no oil ring at all, and I expect I have put on a half million.

I believe Mr. Bagwell is right about the weight of the oil, and keeping the spindle bases clean will do as much for this trouble as anything else. We are leaving out the speed, you understand.

### Drafts

Our time is about up, and we must hurry on. The next question is: "*What are the maximum and minimum drafts on long-draft spinning, making 30/1 yarn with a front roll speed of 125 R.P.M., on an 8" bobbin, 6¾" traverse, 1-13/16" ring, No. 1 flange, 3½" gauge frame?*"

Some of you who are running long-draft spinning tell us something about that.

*Joe C. Cobb*, Supt., Startex Mills, Tucapau, S. C.: We ought to know the staple of the cotton.

*Mr. Splawn*: Let's assume it is 1-1/16".

*Mr. Brannan*: I would say that with 1-1/16" cotton we get mighty good results with 17 draft. You can run it up, very satisfactorily, to 20; but we get the best results right around 17 and 18. That is my experience with 1-1/16" cotton.

*Mr. Splawn*: 17 and 18. What do you think about that, Mr. Cobb?

*Mr. Cobb*: We have a draft, roughly, of 19 on 1-1/16" cotton, double roving, with 120 front roll speed. I think you can have too short a draft as well as too long a draft. The only way I think you can determine that is to make your own tests, going down as low as possible and then going up high, watching your break and the evenness of your yarn. That is the only way I know to determine it. We have not determined it; we have not made any thorough tests on it.

*Mr. Splawn*: What do you think, Mr. Ray? You have some new long draft, haven't you?

*George Ray*, Spinner, Victor Plant, Victor-Monaghan Co., Greer, S. C.: I did not know that anyone is running as low a speed as that on long draft spinning. However, we have a draft of 21 on our 30s warp, and it is very satisfactory. We have satisfactory breaking strength.

*Mr. Splawn*: Double or single?

*Mr. Ray*: Double roving, 3.00 hank.

*Mr. Splawn*: What roll speed do you get with that?

*Mr. Ray*: 135.

*Mr. Splawn*: That is not bad.

*Mr. Brannan*: I should like to ask Mr. Cobb if he thinks he would get better results if they had balanced equipment and could draft around 16 or 17. Sometimes, you know, a man's equipment forces him to do things in a certain way. If he had balanced equipment in every respect, I wonder if he thinks it would make better yarn.

*Mr. Splawn*: What do you think about that, Mr. Ray?

*Mr. Ray*: I have not had much experience, but it seems to me a draft of 20 to 21 is conservative. Personally I should not want to draft less than 18 with my long draft.

*Mr. Splawn*: This is adding a little bit to the question, but what do you find your end breakage is, approximately, on that?

*Mr. Ray*: We have not made any actual tests on that, but I would think around 30, just from observation.

*Mr. Splawn*: That is extra good.

What do you think about it, Mr. Cobb? How does your end breakage run?

*Mr. Cobb*: Our end breakage would be nearer 40. We do not have as good end breakage.

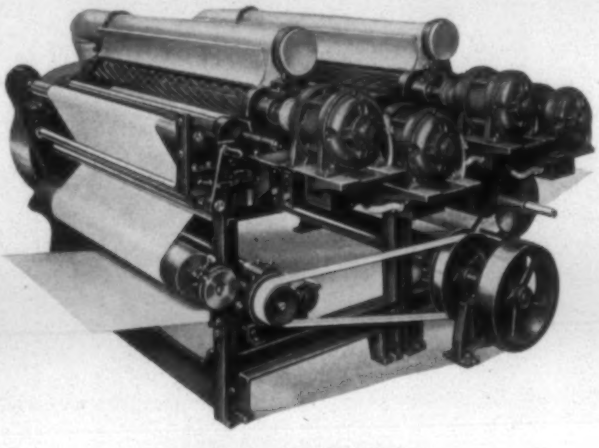
*Mr. Splawn*: That is not bad. But 30 is excellent, in my opinion.

*Mr. Brannan*: I think you are right.

*Mr. Splawn*: Frankly, with normal conditions, not only with long draft but with conventional draft, I have found that from, say, 40s and 50s down the end breakage will go a little under your count and be good. As the count goes up it changes its direction. That has been my experience. I have had just a little bit of experience with long draft, but that was when some of you men possibly were not looking at it so strongly.

*Mr. Cobb*: We were running 3.15 hank roving single on our filling. We made our ends-down test and went to 2.50 hank, single, and made our ends-down test and did not find any appreciable difference either way, and our break remained practically the same. So we were losing just that much money in the card room by sticking to the lower draft. We went from our lighter hank roving to heavier, and it did not make any appreciable difference in our ends down.

*Mr. Splawn*: When it comes to the matter of ends down, I have had different men ask what the roll speed is and what the spindle speed is. I think the best answer to those questions is arrived at there right on the job and is what makes the largest number of ends run best. With long draft I have not had much experience. When it first started, though, I think I can safely say it started in the plant where I had what little experience I have had. I also had a little experience in New Bedford on fine numbers. The first thing we found was that we had to go over the machinery pretty well. It was new machinery.



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We found the twist hurt us more than anything else. The drafts were around from 20½ to 22 at the start. I believe that later a good many men went down to 16. Later they went back to 18, 19, 20 and 21. I have not had so much experience with that.

### Twist Per Inch Best for Spooling

Let's take up the last question: *"What twist per inch do you find best on 30/1 yarn, for spooling on Barber-Colman spoolers with a speed of 1350 yards per minute on the spooler?"*

How do you find that, Mr. Ray? What do you think would be best?

*Mr. Ray*: I think with 1-1/16".

*Mr. Splawn*: What do your tailings run?

*Mr. Ray*: We have not made any exhaustive test on tailings since we have been running long draft. They are not very high, at any rate.

*Mr. Splawn*: How do you find that, Mr. Cobb? I believe you are drafting about 18 on long draft.

*Mr. Cobb*: Yes, sir.

*Mr. Splawn*: What do you find best on the Barber-Colman spooler?

*Mr. Cobb*: We have not made any test as to which is the best twist. Our main trouble is with gouts. If we could just eliminate our gouts we would not have to worry much about twist.

*Mr. Brannan*: I think Mr. Ray is about right on that twist. I ran some tests on that based on my warper winders, not so much on throw-outs. Throw-outs ran about 8 per cent. The stops averaged about 7. They ran from 3 to 9 but averaged about 7 to a 31,000-yard beam. On 4.40 they averaged about 8.5. I ran 4.75, and they averaged about 8.5. I believe you get better warping and spooling from about 4.40 to 4.60 than you do with either lower or higher twist. The average stops for 31,000 yards are about 8.5 to the beam.

*Mr. Lockman*: Have you end pull cheese, or what?

*Mr. Brannan*: End pull cheese.

*Mr. Ray*: If I understood Mr. Brannan, he said 8.5 stops per beam. Is that right?

*Mr. Brannan*: The average per beam is running around 8.5 stops per 31,000 yards, and my throw-outs run from 8 to about 10 per cent. They average about 8 on 4.60 times the square. I find I get better results right there than I do anywhere else.

*Mr. Crow*: I know the time is getting short, but I should like to revert to Question No. 1 for a moment. Mr. Brannan said he was going to differ with me, and I expected him to, but he entirely agreed with what I said. I was referring to which tells the best story, beats per inch or beats per pound, not to changing beats per inch to beats per pound. I agree with Mr. Brannan that you can change the beats per inch or beats per pound by changing the delivery part of the machine and not changing the speed of the beater, but I will guarantee Mr. Brannan that he can not change the beats per pound without changing the beats per inch by so doing, either up or down.

*Mr. Brannan*: You are right.

*Mr. Splawn*: Has anybody any comments to make on that?

*Mr. Crow*: The only difference is whether you want to increase or decrease the speed of the machine.

*Mr. Brannon*: I think Mr. Crow will agree with me that the average carder and the average superintendent, or most carders and most superintendents, if the occasion demands a change (and fancy mills do it more than plain ones), will not change the picker but will change only the lap, and nothing else. But it is absolutely necessary to change the picker. That is, if it was right to start with. If you were not, maybe the other side is right.

*Mr. Splawn*: That ends the discussion and I will turn the meeting back to the chairman.

*Chairman Simmons*: Mr. Splawn, I think you had a very good discussion, even though the crowd is small.

There were a few more questions mailed in to us that folks wanted discussed, but it is past time for adjournment now, and we shall have to leave them for the spring meeting.

(The meeting then adjourned at 12:30 p. m.)

## New Textile Laboratory

Fred A. Mennerich announces the opening of a new laboratory devoted exclusively to the microscopical investigation of routine and research problems in the textile field. He is specializing in microscopical fiber identification and composition, wool grading, denier analysis and other tests which are solved with the aid of a microscope. Another specialty is the taking of photomicrographs to record the defects or show the perfect construction of yarns and fabrics, and to compare the size, shape and evenness of fibers as they appear in longitudinal or cross-section mounts. He has the equipment for taking photomicrographs from magnifications of 2 times to 3,000 times.

His laboratory for textile microscopy and photomicrography is located at 42 Roosevelt avenue, Jersey City, N. J. Mr. Mennerich will gladly send literature and price list on the work that he is doing.

## Jacobs Licences Canada Concern

W. Irving Bullard, president of E. H. Jacobs Mfg. Co., Danielson, Conn., announces the beginning of production of the line of Jacobs products in Montreal, Canada, in the plant of J. C. McLaren Belting Co., of that city, under a licensing agreement with full manufacturing co-operation and interchange of personnel.

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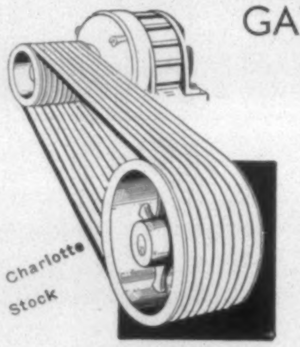

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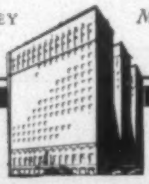

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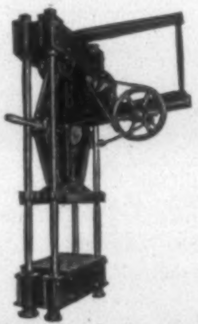

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## Year End Textile Review

*(Continued From Page 5)*

Few of them have altered their concepts to the extent that would seem necessary to hold their place in retail distribution. To operate retail establishments by formula seems to be the dominant trend; undoubtedly, this has been carried too far and a change in emphasis is warranted. It is most important to the textile fraternity that the relative position of the department store be maintained. The spread of wholesale purchasing power is a major stabilizing force; its concentration, if carried to an extreme, is an opposite influence. Through their textile trade associations and by individual contact, much assistance can be contributed to accelerate the pace of change in department store procedures. A questioning and enlightened public is a force which operates to the same end. While it may seem at first glance that all this does not directly concern our industry, we estimate it as one of the fundamental impacts upon its future.

### General Views

The tendency for late Spring buying which has been experienced in recent years is likely to be encouraged by the fact that in 1940 Easter comes on March 24th—the earliest in twenty-seven years. More especially does this effect buying in the colder regions of the country. The period of largest consumption of strictly Spring textiles has come to span the months of March to July; therefore, in planning 1940 operations, this fact should be kept in mind.

While labor and other manufacturing costs advanced measurably in the last three months of the year, we do not feel that costs will continue to rise sharply throughout the new year. We look for changes of only moderate and workable dimensions. In anticipation of operation of the Wage and Hour Law in October, many mills felt that it was desirable to pile up goods to escape the increased labor costs involved. This attitude is certain to be altered materially in the present circumstances, as higher labor costs and restricted prices should combine to discourage any such desire.

The necessity for fabric diversification is more pressing than it ever has been, and the risks are smaller. Those who in 1939 have produced and marketed new weaves and finishes, have proven the verity of this statement. The new development calls for intelligent selection, forceful presentation, and accredited sponsorship—in a word, hard work. It does not sell itself; it demands interpretation. The substantial sale of good cottons, high-class ginghams, chambrays and seersuckers, variations of carded weaves, the expansion in vat-dyed work clothing material, in rayon specialties, in men's wear, in sports novelties and in shirtings, are but some of the fruits of diversification which have created increased profits and sales. Incident to this development, some mill managements who thought their machinery was capable of producing only staples, have discovered that their equipment was quite flexible when ingenious and practical minds were applied to their problem. This avenue of effort offers hopeful possibilities for the new year.

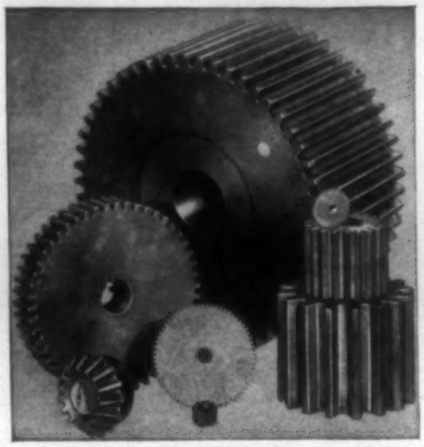
Subject to the unpredictable possibilities which evist in war times and which in our judgment can only be met as actualities, we anticipate a satisfactory textile year. We look for a relatively narrow price range in large volume staples in both cotton and rayon fabrics. The basic problems of our industry are likely to persist. Our methods, our merchandising, and our management will not be exempt from the need for improvement. The well organized converter or printer of textiles performs an economic service which justifies support by the industry. He does a most efficient job; indeed, competition allows for no other possibility. Yet some grey sellers have thoughtlessly lost sight of these considerations and in their anxiety for business have encouraged the cutting of corners which has caused exaggerated price weakness and has undermined confidence. As a matter of sound public policy the results of these practices should be reviewed. The greatest good to the greatest number is a rule which might well be applied.

Co-ordination of production and merchandising will continue as the overwhelming enigma of all textile markets and in this no cure-alls are likely. The highest hope for progress here rests with man power. We are all too prone to generalize about textiles as if all competitive efforts are equally well organized, and therefore all affected in like manner by the tides of trade developments. To do this is to minimize the fact that in every phase ours is a highly individualized activity. This building and coordinating of personnel is the most difficult route to a sounder textile order. It is not purchasable as is machinery; it calls for a leadership of integrity, better than average natural gifts and training which an only result from years of effort. In sum, superior organizations looms as a first consideration in success. Without it, the best of machinery is less effective; with it, success is inescapable.

### Conclusion

A most unusual and interesting textile year is about to close. On balance and in the aggregate, the industry shows profits and progress for the period. This composite result includes the total of rayon yarn production, the processing, weaving, and finishing of both cottons and rayons, the conversion thereof, plus the distribution of grey and finished goods. That is to say, the whole of textile activities delivered a creditable performance, and all indications point to the fact that an equally satisfactory accomplishment should be recorded next year.

Business men are citizens at one and the same time, and as such are engaged in the larger duty of making democracy work. The world crisis puts upon them new obligations which demand that they submit their every act to careful self-scrutiny. The criterion of a successful 1940 will not alone be what our balance sheet shows, but how that result was accomplished from a social standpoint. Were we a constructive force, or were we selfishly destructive in our conduct ,and therefore oblivious of the challenges to freedom which have been thrown at the democracies? Did we violate the privileges of our free economy? Or did we advance the standards of business conduct? Though it may not seem so, no less than our nation's future is implicated in the kind of answers we are able to make to these questions—no less than the way our children shall live!



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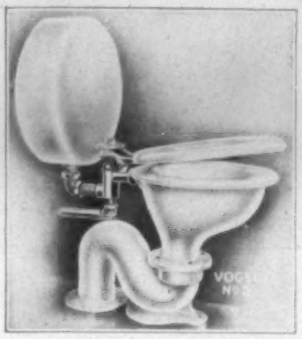

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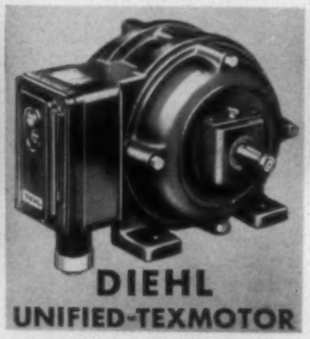

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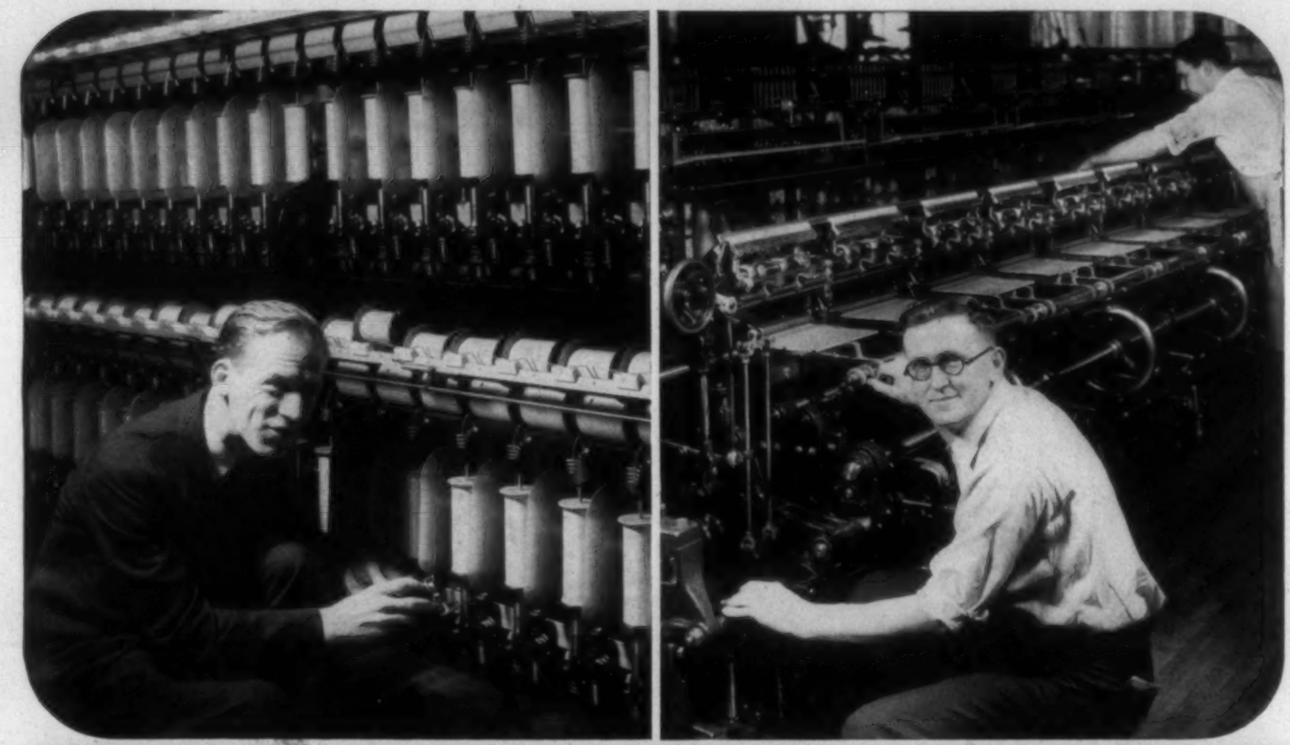

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